



Termly Update from Fairway's Governing Board **Autumn 2018**

Welcome to the Autumn Term newsletter from the Local Governing Board (LGB) of Fairway Primary Academy.

The new academic year has started very positively with the arrival of some fresh faces. We have been impressed with how quickly Mrs Jeacock, Miss Hill and Miss Fincher have settled in to life at Fairway and embraced the ethos of our Academy. We are also delighted to welcome Mrs McConnell and Mr Turbill back in good health ensuring that our Academy is running as efficiently as possible.

As you may or may not be aware, our Academy sponsor has undergone a rebranding exercise and is now known as the University of Wolverhampton Multi-Academy Trust (UWMAT). There will be a rolling programme of replacing signage and you may notice the new logo on communications being sent home. Further to this the Academy will be launching a new website for 2019.

Although the membership of the Governing Board remains unchanged this term, there have been a number of changes within the committee structure. Toby Deakin has taken on the role of vice-chair to the LGB. We have combined the Finance and Personnel committees, as mentioned in the last newsletter, to form a new Resources committee. Michelle Vondey has taken over as chair of the Policies committee and Rachel Fasham is now chairing the Curriculum committee. Unfortunately, we are still without a representative from UWMAT but we have continued to contract SIPS Education to supply our clerking for another year.

The full LGB has met twice as planned this term with each of the committees meeting once. The Curriculum committee were particularly impressed to hear about the plans for teaching numeracy across the Academy being led by Mrs Rowlands and are closely monitoring the impact of the new spelling scheme. The rolling programme of policy review continues and we are actively encouraging refurbishment of the premises where the budget allows. The termly safeguarding report has been compiled and we have continued to have a named governor involved in the strategy planning for year 6. Named governors have also visited school to meet with Mrs L. Ward to review SEND processes and monitor Pupil Premium spend.

One of our governors was delighted to be involved in the appointment process for the positions of head boy and head girl this year and was extremely impressed with the confidence of all the young people who applied. This is a testament to the encouraging environment that Fairway provides.

The Headteacher's appraisal committee, made up of 3 LGB members, met in October to consider the performance of our new Head. We have been extremely pleased with the impact Mrs Williams has made since her appointment in January in areas such as strengthening the leadership of the Academy and increasing the available learning time for your children as well as revamping the awards system and enforcing the focus on attendance. Objectives have been set for the current academic year and we shall be reviewing progress towards those in March 2019.

As ever, governors have strived to support Academy events where ever possible and have been present at Headteacher's assemblies, inspire workshops, the christmas fayre, the KS1 christmas performance and musicians performances as well as volunteering to hear children read and to read to the children. We are always met with such enthusiasm that our visits to the Academy are always a pleasure.

Finally, we would like to congratulate the Academy on achieving the UNICEF Rights Respecting Schools Silver award. The Award improves the lives of children in the UK by taking a whole school approach to putting children's rights at the heart of school policy and practice. This will be valid for 3 years and we hope to be able to support the Academy in working towards the Gold award. We would like to express particular thanks to Mrs Rowley for pushing through the work required to gain this important accolade.

Which just leaves us to wish you all a very merry Christmas and we look forward to working with everyone involved in Fairway Primary again in 2019.



Details about members of the Fairway Governing Board can be found on the Academy website along with previous newsletters and further information about the work that we do. We welcome feedback from all stakeholders and if you have any queries or comments about anything we have done this term please contact the Chair via the Academy office.