



Trusting in God, together we live, learn and grow.

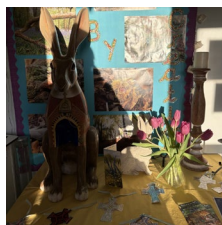
Welcome to our first Governors Newsletter of 2024/25

Being new to the role of Chair gives me a great sense of pride and honour. I look forward to more regular communication in the summer term and ahead into the next academic year. This newsletter is a chance to share and celebrate in the many achievements and exciting initiatives happening throughout the school. Firstly, our wonderful staff team, class teachers, TA's, administrators, midday meal supervisors and our many volunteers, all working extremely hard for our children in the most positive and enthusiastic way. As a governor I see first-hand the benefits of such a strong and inspiring team. Mrs Bacon, along with the pupil led school council and worship group, add direction and pupil voice to all our learning and resources. So far this year the children have enjoyed educational offsite visits as well as annual events such as the Harvest Festival and Red Nose Day, showing our children to be dedicated to the values associated with service and charity, and thinking beyond ourselves.

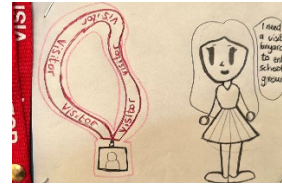
The regular woodland classroom and visits to St Peters church continue throughout the year, which is mainly down to the commitment of our leadership team and our dedicated wider partners, for whom we depend on, to keep the local environment accessible for all.

A special mention needs to go to Oscar our school dog, and of course Barley and Twist our school guinea pigs, providing regular opportunities for the children to take responsibility and carry our many of our school values.

Thank you, Mrs Bacon, for providing all of this and much more for our school and Haresfield Family.



Our first and most important job is to foster safe and nurturing educational environments for all at Haresfield Primary school. As Mrs Bacon reminds the children every day, **'my first job is to keep you safe'**. Every time I walk into the school with my visitor's badge on, the different learning environments show overwhelming evidence of this important message, empowering our children to ask for help, express themselves and learn creatively and safely.



The most recent initiative has been the introduction of the buzzy bees. These friendly pictorial bees are hidden around the school for the children to notice and find. I spotted one myself this week. They have a very important message.



Ask your
children about
the Buzzy Bees

News about Health and Safety Walks

The **Finance Committee** have supported Haresfield with keeping on top of all the small jobs around the school, such as carpets being checked, interior doorways, maintaining drains and sinks in classrooms and heating being serviced. On behalf of the governing body, I would like to extend a huge thank you to **Mr Bacon** for helping with our list of jobs.

Message from our Finance committee

We welcome this spring weather which comes at a time of new purchases of lunchtime games for the children. A new computer room has recently been installed and this infrastructure will greatly assist the children's learning and will pave the way for more equipment for the children going forward. Purchases include new iPads; money-saving lights in the hall; and a plan to introduce in each classroom. Exciting times ahead! The Finance Committee has scrutinised the budget for next year and acknowledge that it is tight, but with support from PTFA and the parents, we are in a secure position. We are pleased to be involved in Health and Safety and making sure the children can thrive in a clean and safe environment.

Lisa Harman on behalf of the Finance Committee



Learning at Haresfield happens both inside and outside



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Celebrating our Christian distinctness

Our school values, covered through worship and our child centred approaches to learning, encourage children to think about their actions and take responsibility for their choices. Aim high points are working well for all the children, as well as the many certificates and awards children at Haresfield strive for, such as the latest **Mrs Segelov trophy**. This kind of celebration allows us to reflect on where our school has come from, the people whose shoulders it has been built on and where it is going to next.

Message from the curriculum committee

A huge thank you to Mr Cooksley who welcomed me on my governor visit with a tour of reading throughout the school earlier this week, seeing firsthand the impact of a strategic and ambitious reading curriculum. I have seen a transformation in the reading curriculum offered at Haresfield School. The library, which welcomes every visitor and child as they arrive at school, is alive with a rich and varied amounts of literature and reading spaces. The children described enjoying snuggling into the seat in the tree and 'loosing themselves' in their reading.

They say, '*proof is in the pudding*' and seeing the quality of writing in the children's books was excellent. All the children I talked to, could describe what it takes to be a good reader. Talking with children about their favourite authors, books and reading was truly moving. We are all aware that nowadays reading needs to compete with IT, however what I gleaned on my visit was that the children at Haresfield School have got the best of both.

Thank you to Mrs Bacon and SLT with support from the PTFA for investing in and continuing to invest and create such important '*lifelong learning*' resources. We are grateful to all our parents and carers including, as I heard from the children, family pets, for being good listeners and reading role models. Keep it up everyone!

Watch this space for more reading for pleasure spaces for our children coming soon.



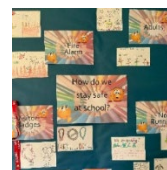
News about our supportive Haresfield Parish council

Our children have flourished, both academically and in their personal growth, through the many experiences and shared partnerships and initiative undertaken with, and because of, our prosperous Parish council and the very special relationship we have with it. Our children love to spend the spring and summer months on the Merryfield and we are truly blessed to be able to use this wonderful space. In the summer term we are planning to step up the litter picking events, organised and carried out willingly by the school council. What a wonderful community we are for our young people making these enriching experiences possible. We are most grateful.

News from Friends and Teachers of Haresfield:

Firstly, a big thank you from all the governors to **Sanette Wright** who has worked so hard as our chair of the PTFA. Over to you Sanette... We welcome Carrie Cook as our new Treasurer!! Carrie was already an awesome active PTFA member and without her many of the recent events would have been impossible. Carrie, we appreciate you and thank you for stepping up and all that you're going to do for our school and the children! Carrie is tying up all the finance admin of the events this year and soon we'll share the updates, as well as the wish list from school, in more detail. The PTFA will be meeting on **Monday the 12th of April at 3pm** to also go over this detail and tighten up plans around our Summer Fayre. Please join us even if it is just to chat and spend time together. Look forward to seeing you there. Have a blessed Easter and a fun time decorating your plates for our competition!!

Sanette Wright Chair of the PTFA



Please get in touch To help to continue to maintain our communication, if you have any feedback about the newsletter or any suggestions / comments about any aspect of school life, please email me on: chair@haresfield.gloucs.sch.uk. You can also talk to governors at parents' events coming up in the summer term. Thank you for all your support and for your wonderful children. Have a lovely Easter and a well-earned rest.

Helen Williams on behalf of the governing body