

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER

AUTUMN 2024



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of the first half term, we would like to warmly welcome all our new children, families and staff. We hope you are settling in well and are delighted that you are a part of the Campsbourne community.



As Governors, our role is to support the school and act as a 'critical friend' to the Leadership Team. We work together with the Headteacher to make important decisions about the school's strategic development. It's a real privilege to be part of such a fantastic school, and we're proud to contribute to its continued success.

HOW GOVERNORS ARE SUPPORTING THE SCHOOL THIS TERM

- Holding full Governing Body meetings
- Meeting as part of the Finance and Premises, and Curriculum and Standards committees
- Attending an away day to review progress on the School Development Plan and setting new priorities with the Headteacher
- Refreshing Safeguarding and Prevent training, along with other sessions on topics like suspensions and exclusions, and Equality, Diversity and Inclusion
- Conducting link governor visits with subject and phase leads, and talking to the children
- Working hard to recruit a new Headteacher. We appreciate your patience during this process and look forward to sharing more details with you soon

A FABULOUS ACHIEVEMENT!

Congratulations to all the Year 6 leavers on their fantastic achievements at the end of Key Stage 2! Their hard work, and perseverance have truly paid off, with results that were higher than the national average. A heartfelt thank you to all the staff at Campsbourne who have supported and guided them throughout their journey. Wishing the children continued success as they embark on their next chapter in secondary school!



HSA

We would like to extend a HUGE thank you to the Home School Association for all their incredible fundraising efforts. Their dedication and hard work have made a significant impact on our school community, providing valuable resources and opportunities for our children. Additionally, we'd like to remind you that we've been participating in the Asda Cash Pots for Schools initiative. Even if you don't shop at Asda, you can still support us by simply downloading the app, which gives our school £1 for each download. So far, £134.25 has been raised. Please support Campsbourne by creating an account and selecting either Campsbourne Infant or Junior School by 30th November. Together, we can continue to enhance the learning experience of our children by maximising every opportunity to support the school's tight budget. More information can be found here... <https://www.asda.com/cashpotforschools>

THANK YOU AND FAREWELL TO JONATHON SMITH

We are very sad to say goodbye to our Headteacher, Jonathan Smith, at the end of this term. Throughout his time at Campsbourne, Jonathan has helped our school's culture and values grow stronger and has played an important role in driving school improvements. His dedication to making Campsbourne the best it can be has made a real difference, and he will be greatly missed.



Before Jonathan heads off to sunny Australia, we took the opportunity to ask him a few questions.

What has been your proudest achievement as headteacher of Campsbourne?

I don't think of them as my achievements, but I am very proud of the strong reputation we have in the local community. This is nothing to do with me, but due to the incredible staff who work so hard to care for and teach the children as well as they do.

What do you believe makes Campsbourne special?

In our Infant Ofsted report, staff said "they felt like part of a family". I think this is a sentiment children and parents can also subscribe to, I hope so. A lot of this is down to the HSA, who do so much to create that community vibe and raise oodles of cash!

How have you seen our school grow during your time here?

I think the biggest change has been our inclusiveness, which is often given as a reason by parents for choosing Campsbourne, and the curriculum, with the introduction of swimming into all year groups and, of course, Forest School!

What will you look back on most fondly from your time at Campsbourne?

It has to be all those occasions where I see children having fun and enjoying themselves learning. I remember being in a year 3 class, and their teacher told them they were doing science, and they all raised their arms and cheered! That made my day. I also love watching them go off to their swimming lessons, leaving for Forest School or hearing about how much they enjoyed their trips, often doing activities which they probably wouldn't be able to do if we didn't organise them.

I must also say that I will miss my catch ups with my previous Chair of Governors at the Vicky Stakes, so a special mention to Stuart Parker, Ellie Jones, Alex Heywood, and Laura Lewis-Williams, who is still going strong. I have been very fortunate to have such strong and supportive Chairs and am flattered they still talk to me!

What excites you the most about your next chapter in Australia?

Spending time with family and catching up with old friends who I met when we all lived in London, sunsets over the Indian Ocean, going to the beach whenever we want to, proper summers, warm winters, BBQs at Christmas, learning to surf... I'm joking, I am not going to learn to surf!

We're always happy to talk about and share the work of the governing body, so please get in touch. You can find out more about us on the school website.

We wish you a wonderful half term break!

From all the Governors at Campsbourne School