

WOOTTON ST ANDREW'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA) PRIMARY SCHOOL

GOVERNOR NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2026
EDITION NUMBER 3



A warm welcome from our Chair of Governors

As I write this newsletter under blue skies and warm sunshine, I hope that the settled weather and long summer days continue as we reach the end of a successful school year.



The summer term has been a particularly busy and rewarding one for the Governing Body. Throughout the year, governors have continued to work closely with school leaders to support improvement, celebrate success and ensure that every decision remains focused on achieving the very best outcomes for our children.

I would like to share some key updates from the Governing Body and highlight some of the work that has taken place behind the scenes.



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Changes to the Governing Body

As the academic year draws to a close, there have been some changes within the Governing Body.

Professor Emeritus Christopher Wilson's term of office has now come to an end, and he has chosen not to seek reappointment at this time. On behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to express our sincere thanks for the considerable time, commitment and expertise he has contributed to the school.

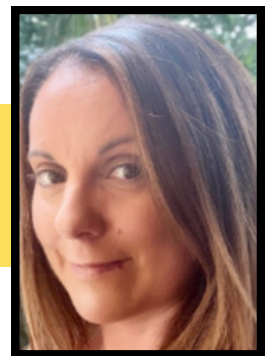
His support, thoughtful challenge and dedication have been greatly valued, and his contribution to the strategic leadership of the school has been significant.

Although stepping down as a governor, we are delighted that Christopher will remain a valued friend of the school. We look forward to his continued involvement, particularly in supporting and enriching our music provision.

From September, we will welcome Mrs Ridhi Dave-Neild as a Foundation Governor. She brings valuable skills and experience which will further strengthen the Governing Body's capacity to support, challenge and shape the strategic direction of the school. We are awaiting a final check for the second new Foundation Governor we'd mentioned previously.

We look forward to introducing them both more fully in the autumn term.

Our Governors



and Mrs A Storer



Reviewing Our School Vision

One of the Governing Body's most important responsibilities is ensuring that the school's vision remains ambitious, meaningful and reflective of its Christian foundation.

Over recent months, governors have worked closely with the Lincoln Diocese and school leaders to review and refine the school's vision so that it fully reflects the school's Christian distinctiveness, values and aspirations for the future.

The revised vision now states:

Rooted in the Wootton Way, journeying together in the light of Love, Joy, Courage and Trust.

Together we learn and shine as we discover new things and become the best we can be. With our families, the Church and our community, we make school a safe, happy and caring place where everyone is valued. Inspired by St Andrew, we aim to be a light for others, showing kindness, resilience, bravery and hope to make the world a brighter place.

Governors are proud of this vision and believe it captures both the unique character of our school and our aspirations for the future.

A Lasting Musical Legacy

Governors were delighted to hear the newly commissioned school song, created through collaboration between the children and renowned musician Snake Davis.

Following discussions with pupils, Snake used their ideas, words and aspirations to compose a piece that beautifully captures the school's vision, values and connection to St Andrew.

The song is a powerful reflection of the school's identity and was a particular highlight of this year's Sports Day. The Governing Body would like to place on record its sincere thanks to Snake Davis for creating what will undoubtedly become a lasting legacy for future generations of Wootton children.



A New School Badge Designed by Our Children

The Governing Body is pleased to share that the school's new badge, designed by our pupils, has now been formally approved and will gradually be introduced across school uniform and school documentation.

Governors have been particularly mindful of the financial impact that any change to uniform could have on families. As a result, it has been agreed that there will be **no expectation for families to replace existing uniform items.**

Current uniform may continue to be worn for as long as it remains suitable, including items passed down to younger siblings. As uniform is replaced over time, families can simply purchase items featuring the new badge.

This phased approach allows the school to introduce its new identity while minimising costs for families.



Celebrating a Successful Sports Day

Governors were pleased to attend this year's Sports Day and witness first-hand the enthusiasm, determination and sportsmanship demonstrated by all pupils.

Behind the scenes, significant planning, preparation and risk assessment work was undertaken to ensure that the event could proceed safely during the recent period of extremely warm weather.

Following governor scrutiny of these arrangements and consideration of feedback provided by families, it is clear that Sports Day was a tremendous success. The Governing Body would like to thank the Headteacher and staff for delivering what several parents described as one of the best Sports Days in recent years.

Governors have also carefully considered feedback received and have asked that the competitive racing element continues to form part of future Sports Day planning.



Holding the School to Account

While much of a governor's work takes place behind the scenes, one of our core responsibilities is ensuring that every child receives the highest quality education possible.

Governors are responsible for:

- Setting the strategic direction of the school
- Overseeing financial management
- Ensuring safeguarding arrangements are robust
- Holding school leaders to account for educational outcomes

Effective governance relies upon a strong professional relationship with school leaders—one built on trust, transparency and a shared commitment to securing the very best outcomes for every child. However, governors also have a duty to ask challenging questions, seek evidence and ensure that decisions are always in pupils' best interests.

Throughout the year, governors have monitored school priorities through our committee structure and Full Governing Body meetings, including:

Curriculum and Achievement

Monitoring pupil progress and curriculum development to ensure children achieve their full potential.

Finance and Resources

Ensuring that school finances are managed effectively and deliver the best possible value for pupils.

Safeguarding, Health and Safety

Providing assurance that safeguarding remains effective and that children are safe and well supported.

During recent meetings, governors have reviewed pupil progress information, scrutinised attendance and safeguarding data, monitored the impact of curriculum developments, approved key policies and challenged school leaders on the effectiveness of improvement actions.

In future newsletters, we will provide summaries from each committee so that parents have a clearer understanding of how governors support and challenge the school.

Looking Back on a Year of Improvement

Over the past year, governors have overseen a period of significant school improvement and development.

While change can sometimes bring uncertainty, we have been encouraged by the positive way in which children, staff and families have embraced new opportunities and developments.

Governors have been particularly pleased to see pupils benefiting from an increasingly rich range of experiences, including:

- Educational visits
- Enrichment activities
- Sporting events
- Community partnerships
- Wider curriculum opportunities

Most importantly, children continue to make good progress, grow in confidence and demonstrate the values that make Wootton such a special school community.

We would like to thank our dedicated staff for their professionalism and commitment, our families for their continued support and partnership, and most importantly our wonderful children, who make us proud every day.

Together, we look forward to building upon this year's successes and continuing our journey of improvement in the year ahead.

Family Support During the Summer Holidays

As the school year draws to a close, governors would like to remind families about the support available through the North Lincolnshire Family Hub.

The service offers a wide range of information, guidance and support for families throughout the year. Further information can be found via this link:

[Family Hubs and Best Start in Life – North Lincolnshire Council](#)

Contacting the Governing Body

We would welcome feedback on this newsletter, along with suggestions for information you would like governors to include in future editions.

If you wish to contact the Governing Body, please do so via:

s.hewson@wootton.n-lincs.sch.uk

Please note that any formal complaint submitted to the Chair of Governors must first have followed the school's Complaints Procedure, which can be found on the school website.

End of Year Message

On behalf of the entire Governing Body, I would like to wish all our families a happy, safe and relaxing summer break.

Shan Hewson
Chair of Governors