



Mill Lane Community Primary School
Governing Board

31 Mar 2023

Parents, Carers and Guardians,

We thought it would be good to write and highlight some of the ongoing activities of the Mill Lane Governing Board and the great work the school is doing to support your children. We hope this letter will become more regular as we work to improve our communications with you as we settle back into what is the first full 'post-covid' school year.

There are 3 core roles of the governing board: to provide strategic leadership, monitor the school's financial performance and to hold the head teacher and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT) to account as critical friends. Routinely we discuss and review school policies, receive and consider a termly report to governors from the Headteacher, review the school's in-year budget and provide support and oversight on drafting the budget for the following year. As we approach Easter, it is supporting the SLT with the budget that becomes the focus as we look to assess the effectiveness of the money spent in the 22/23 Financial Year and consider the balance of investment proposed by the SLT for 23/24.

We hope you are already noticing some of the directed changes this year, the most significant being the delivery of the Little Wandle package to support Phonics and Spelling. The government has provided significant funds to allow for 'catch up' post covid and this has been focussed in those areas where the SLT have noticed an opportunity for supporting growth in some of the weaker aspects of school performance. To understand these changes and other aspects of the school, the governors arrange individual visits, centred on a particular subject or theme and we always come away impressed with what they have learnt and experienced.

We hope you are as proud as we are of our SLT and staff, they work tirelessly to ensure the best education possible for your children. If you would like to contact the Governing Board with any queries or concerns, then a comments box is available in the school foyer. Otherwise please feel free to email us on governors.2465@mill-lane.oxon.sch.uk, noting we do not get involved in the day to day running of the School. The current Chair of the Governing Body is Stuart Watkinson and there are 2 parent governors that are nominated by the parent body and ensure that your viewpoints are represented, Sarah Pritchard and Ben Trafford, who are always happy to talk to you if you see them in the school, so please feel free to catch up with them if you have any comments.

We look forward to the summer term and hope you all enjoy the Easter period.

Yours faithfully,

Governing Board of Mill Lane Community School