

Governors Newsletter

March 2021



Dear Teachers,

What an interesting twelve months this has been! The current events could never have been predicted and have certainly brought with them some new challenges and stresses, especially to you trying to continue to deliver a quality of education to our children under this "new normal". Let's remind ourselves that you, in a non-coronavirus world, already had to deal with an array of challenges, however 2020 brought with it even more, such as the threat of catching COVID-19, learning new digital technologies, Google Meet and Zoom interruptions, as well as juggling teaching in-person and remotely.

As parents ourselves, having gone through the challenges of home-schooling, we fully appreciate all the work that goes into teaching under "normal" circumstances; however, during this pandemic, teaching has been very far from typical and nothing schools have ever had to do before. You are the first teachers to tackle a challenge like the one we're facing now; nevertheless, you have been able to adapt and engage our children into this new way of learning, finding new ways to connect with them and their families, within a very short period of time and we are all hugely grateful.

We could sit here and type so many more words of thanks and appreciation however none of these words will remove the challenges you have faced so far and will likely continue to face as we continue to embark on this "new normal", but we wanted to let you know how essential and how valued you are by all of us. Thank you to you all for everything you do!

Anna O'Sullivan
(on behalf of the Parents, Carers and Governors)



Views from New Parent Governor

Huge thanks to the teachers for such productive and informative subject visits (well, Zoom calls!) over the last few months. As a new governor, I have been so impressed with the effort that has continued to be put into developing and evolving the children's learning, even during the challenging lockdown periods.

It has been great to see how closely our two schools are already working together to ensure continuity throughout the Cunningham Hill journey, as well as to see the careful planning that goes into linking subjects so that they are as accessible as possible for the children.

I particularly enjoyed discovering the creative methods used for learning – games in French, enrichment days in History and wherever possible projects covered across subjects (Vikings are taught in French as well as History!).

The visits have also been a great opportunity to understand the robust planning for the children's return to school – thanks all!

Michelle Fadil



To get in touch with us, please email: Chair of Governors: Rondi Allan
Contact Details: chairofgovernors@cunninghamhill.herts.sch.uk or
contact the school office



In current times with COVID and a widening range of pupil support needed, PE is a tricky subject to be teaching, but both Miss Green and Miss Hostein have done an unbelievable job in maintaining an outstanding level of education.

The curriculum has been effectively adapted despite the ever-changing guidelines and when remote teaching was required there was an active effort to get pupils to join from outdoor spaces. There has also been more focus on mindfulness, for example through yoga, to help with mental wellbeing.

The creative thinking from both teachers to come up with fun activities that can be done at home and link to other subjects has been amazing. My favourite example was an activity where the pupils collected sticks outside and made hieroglyphs from them to link with learning in history, but that is just one of many.

I cannot say enough good things about the work that has been done already this year, as well as the forward thinking of how to keep providing the best possible education to all pupils. Thank you so much for the continued hard work, which I am sure all the pupils, staff, parents and governors appreciate!

Sohan Sooral

Who are the Governors?

We are diverse group of volunteers who form part of the leadership of the school. We conduct skills audits to ensure we have the right people around the table to support and lead our school.

We all sit of one sub-committee and have subject or specific lead roles, e.g. Safeguarding, Maths, Health and Safety, etc. We all meet with the school frequently, via zoom, for now, to support in our various roles and then share our knowledge with the rest of Governing Body. Each Governor also has mandatory governors training they must complete annually.

If you would like to know more about us and what we do, please see our page on the school website <https://cunninghamhill.herts.sch.uk/governor-profiles>

Name	Type	Committees
Rondi Allan	Co-opted	Chair of Governors
Graeme Bird	Co-opted	Resources
Carole Connelly	Clerk	Full Governing Body
Justine Elbourne-Cload	Staff	Executive Headteacher
Michelle Fadil	Parent	Resources
Reanne Gourdin	Co-opted	Curriculum and Wellbeing
Daniel James	Co-opted	Resources
Anna O'Sullivan	Parent	Chair of Curriculum and Wellbeing
Sohan Sooral	Co-opted	Chair of Resources
Nikki Spencer	Staff	Curriculum and Wellbeing
Matt Tavender	Staff	Head of Schools
James Thompson	Co-opted	Resources
Zoe Westgarth	Co-opted	Vice Chair / Curriculum and Wellbeing