



Your Governors

Sue Bradley-Jones (Chair)
Peter Hall (Vice-Chair)
Mary Blogg
Julie Collins
Junior Fowlin
Emma Frith
Deb Lamplugh
Jules Miller
Tom Merrifield
Charlotte Parker
Jude Saunderson
Fiona Yarrow
Rebecca Surridge (Staff Member)
Paul Batchelor (Head Teacher)

NORTH NIBLEY C of E PRIMARY SCHOOL
GOVERNORS' NEWSLETTER



Our Chair of Governors, Sue Bradley-Jones, writes: "It's now a month and a half since school closed and the Easter holidays have come and gone, but it is hard to realise that we are into the summer term without all the usual markers, like summer uniform, cricket and fixtures such as the FONNS barbecue to look forward to.

I hope that you all have managed to get into the groove of home schooling, although combining that with jobs is no easy matter, as I hear from my fellow governors who are parents of school children. I also know from them what an excellent job the Head Teacher and all the other staff have done in providing learning materials, and the other online activities which help to keep the sense of the school community alive.

Speaking personally, I have found it frustrating not to be able to help out with my grandchildren, but I have seen them almost daily on Skype, where we share lots of virtual activities: I have made cakes, been on long walks and read stories, all via the phone. Miraculous to me, normal to them! But the day when we can all have a real hug will be a good one.

The governors will continue to meet, (if we can master video conferencing), to carry out some of our essential tasks, such as monitoring the school budget, considering staff welfare, and keeping an eye on the safety of the school premises. Obviously our role in keeping abreast of the school's strengths and needs in learning (performance data) is not applicable at the moment. Two ongoing capital projects - a new boiler and an IT upgrade - have to be put on hold, although we are most grateful to the Parish Council for a grant towards a new boiler. We can't yet estimate the effect on our budget of the school closure and the reduction of income from regular and much appreciated sources of support, such as FONNS, since the Music Festival will not be going ahead.

We have appointed some new governors recently: Debs Lamplugh and Tom Merrifield, about whom more below, and Jules Miller. This means that for the first time in a while we have our full complement of 14 governors and are up to strength, with a Board of many talents!

When we have a better idea of how this lockdown will come to an end, we intend to work closely with the school to ensure it runs as smoothly as possible. Reopening will be every bit as problematic as closing, but we have a fantastic team and everyone is determined to see it work well for the benefit of the whole school community.

With best wishes to you all to stay well and happy in the next few weeks. Sue Bradley-Jones on behalf of the governors.

INTRODUCING NEW GOVERNOR, DEBS LAMPLUGH



Hi everyone my name is Debs Lamplugh and I was appointed a school governor in October 2019. I am new to the Gloucestershire area, having moved to North Nibley from Surrey two years ago.

My career history mainly focuses around Learning and Talent Development both in the UK and Internationally, much of which has included setting up and developing departments for medium sized businesses, where no resource was previously in place. This has involved working with senior management teams to instil a learning and development culture, developing internal and external training opportunities and creating career paths to attract and retain talent. Other areas of my career I really enjoyed are producing learning strategies, coaching management teams and creating leadership programmes.

I have a Postgraduate Diploma in Careers Advisory and a Masters degree in Executive Coaching, which I have used to coach senior management teams from an array of industries.

I have joined the Teaching and Learning committee of the governors where I hope to bring lots of ideas, use my past experience and continue my own learning journey. I think the passion and enthusiasm of the whole teaching team is incredible and reflected in the happiness of the children.

Since moving to North Nibley my career has taken a very different direction and my husband, Charles and I now run Forthay Bed & Breakfast, which we love. I have a 16-year-old son called Rhys, 4 cockapoo dogs, a Burmese cat and 7 chickens. This is my first time living in a village and I very much wanted to get involved supporting the local community, hence applying to be a school governor and a volunteer at the village shop.

My hobbies include long dog walks exploring the beautiful surrounding countryside, cooking, running and interior design."

INTRODUCING NEW GOVERNOR, TOM MERRIFIELD



As a new parent and new Parent Governor with my son Oliver entering the Reception class only a few months ago, I am extremely eager to support him and his school through the early years of his education and beyond. With this in mind I am really excited to get involved and help the school in any way I can.

As an Operations Manager working in Banking I focus on regulatory compliance, implementation of improvements to process and providing robust MI to inform strategic decisions at an Executive Level. I currently lead a number of initiatives for the Business Banking sector of my organization. Although my focus is in the South West & Wales, I do manage a number of national processes.

I look forward to working collaboratively with the governors and staff within the school where I believe my financial background will be the focus of my responsibilities. I am also very keen to get to know the wider community better and am always up for a chat at the school gates or privately.

And Finally.....

A competition for the children: to make something with a rainbow theme – it could be a cake, a pot of flowers, a sculpture or painting, a story, even a photograph of a rainbow! – and send a photo of your entry to your Class Dojo Portfolio by May 22. Mr Batchelor will share these with the governors in an online gallery for judging. The governors will award a prize to the best entry in each class age group. Go for it and good luck!

Learning
Achievement
Faith
Fun!