Governors' Bulletin

It's been an excellent start to the new school year with the children enthusiastically throwing themselves back into school life, and organising themselves into their new "tribes." It is also heartening to hear in the last couple of newsletters about the **excellent behaviour on display**.

Organisational updates

It has been a busy time for the governing body, with lots of changes taking place. The previous chair, Jenni Caisley, has come to the end of her term of office. She has now left the board, along with Fraser Rogers who has taken up a new position at work. We thank them both for their invaluable contribution and wish them well for the future. We're delighted to have welcomed four new governors over the last few months. Antony Jopen, Mark Inman, James Loft, and Craig Slorach are fantastic additions to the team, bringing with them a wide range of valuable skills and experience. Whilst the governing body is in a very healthy place right now, **we're always keen to hear from prospective new governors; please contact the Headteacher if you'd like to learn more.**

Governor activity

You – or your children – might have spotted Governors around school over the past few months: as part of our rigorous monitoring approach, Governors sit in on lessons, discuss curriculum planning with subject leads, and talk to children about their experiences at Fulbourn Primary. We are currently busy preparing for a potential **Ofsted inspection**, which might happen some time this academic year.

Attendance

When an Ofsted inspection does happen, one of the areas of focus will be on **pupil attendance**. The Government set challenging targets for school attendance rates, and as a governing body, we discuss this at every meeting. There is strong evidence that pupil outcomes are directly influenced by how much time they spend in school. The Headteacher has to follow strict guidelines on authorising absence and has little leeway. Absence is only authorised for exceptional events such as attending funerals or family weddings, and even then, it is likely that only a single day would be approved. The issuing of fines is a contentious area, but again the school has no discretion. **All fines go directly to the local authority: the school does not benefit financially from fining parents.** Please do all you can to ensure your child is always in school. If you need support with this, please contact the school who will try to help you.

Thank You!

We have a wonderful school, but this doesn't happen by accident. The dedication of the **PTFA** and the **Men in School** groups is noteworthy, as is the untiring commitment of the **entire staff body**. The financial support of the **Wrights' Clock Charity** is also crucial. We are extremely grateful to each and every individual who helps Fulbourn Primary be such a warm, welcoming community. Here's to many more years of **curiosity, compassion, courage and creativity**!

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