



MEET THE GOVERNORS



Jon SPENCER

Hello, I'm Jon Spencer and the new Chair of the Board of Governors. My background is in secondary and College education. I'm also on the Parish Council. My twin boys joined the reception class at Thaxted Primary school in 2014 and left the school this Summer and after many happy years.

The Board of Governors is a legally required group of volunteers, from the Community, Parents and Staff of the school, whose responsibility is:

1. Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction;
2. Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils;

Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure its money is well spent

We regularly need new governors and will soon be asking for parent volunteers to join us.

JAMIE HENDERSON

Hi, I am Jamie Henderson and I am one of the parent governors at the school. I have one child in Year 1 and another child to join next year!

For those with good memory I introduced myself in a previous newsletter. Now in my second year as Governor I am the new chair of the Finance, Premises and Personnel Committee (FPP) which is a sub-division of the main governors group. The detailed responsibilities of this committee is very extensive but in summary we ensure the school is spending in line with agreed budgets, that maintenance and improvements of buildings are in line with development plans and that the school has sufficient and adequate staff and working conditions. All of this, of course, in line with the School Improvement Plan. This is all monitored throughout the academic year.



If you had any queries about this or anything else please feel free to grab me on the school runs or email j.henderson@thaxted.essex.sch.uk.

Attendance

The law entitles every child of compulsory school age to an efficient, full-time education suitable to their age, aptitude, and any special educational need they may have. It is the legal responsibility of every parent to make sure their child receives that education either by attendance at a school or by education otherwise than at a school.

Where parents decide to have their child registered at school, they have an additional legal duty to ensure their child attends that school regularly. This means their child must attend every day that the school is open, except in a small number of allowable circumstances such as being too ill to attend or being given permission for an absence in advance from the school.

Please be aware that these special circumstances are for very serious situations and not for family holidays. The Headteacher and Governors are aware that financially family holidays are considerably more expensive in holiday time than term time but we are committed to all children achieving the very best they can. If parents do apply for their child to have time off for holidays they may receive a letter stating the absence is unauthorised and that they could be fined by the Local Authority.

UPCOMING DATES:

HARVEST FESTIVAL

Wednesday 19th October 2pm

PARENTS EVENING:

Tues 1st November

3.30pm- 5pm

Thursday 3rd November

4.30pm-7pm

**HEADTEACHERS COFFEE
MORNING**

Tuesday 18th October 9-10am

PTA Dates

Krispie Kreme sale

Friday 21st October after school

DEEPEST APOLOGIES FOR THE DELAY IN GETTING DATES OUT TO PARENTS- HOPEFULLY ALL DATES WILL BE FINALISED SOON, until then future dates will be sent out monthly in the newsletter.

Parent Survey launch

Please look out for a parentmail survey coming out to all parents next week.

Its vital the Governors and Headteacher hear your opinions on how the school is doing and future planned changes, such as prices of dinners and the timings of the school day.

The Government has set a minimum number of hours a day children should be in school and Thaxted will need to increase the number of minutes daily to achieve the minimum required.

Safeguarding

It is everyone's job to make sure our children are safe and cared for. So please be supportive and not alarmed if members of staff ask politely about such things as your child's absence or lack of coat or any new bruise they may have.

All Thaxted staff have had their yearly safeguarding training that follows the governments guidance 'Keeping Children Safe in Education'. This is a meaty document that covers all the alarming things that sadly have happened to children if they have not been kept safe and the good practice that staff should know of, to avoid it happening at

Thaxted Primary.

We have to adopt an attitude of 'It could happen here' and be prepared to support our children and their families through any difficulties they may be encountering.

Please do arrange a confidential meeting with Mrs Crompton or Mrs Dymond or Mrs Black (the Designated Safeguarding Leads) if your family are experiencing difficulties that may effect the welfare of your child.

In some instances we are able to sign post families to Essex Family Solutions who can sometimes help with such things as, domestic abuse, housing, and financial difficulties.

DONATIONS

Mrs Quinn and the Early Years team would like thank everyone for all the donations collected so far, we have never seen so many beads!

We also would like to say a big thank you to the very kind financial contribution from one of our new Reception parents.

Our next request...

Accidents do happen and as our youngest children sometimes get excited and forget to go to the toilet we are running low on changes of underwear. So any donations of new packets of girls and boys pants aged 3-6years or clean hand me downs would be appreciated.

LOCAL NEWS

Carroll class visited the Baptist Church as part of the Harvest topic within the RE curriculum, they were very kindly hosted, read a story, made calendars and received generous refreshments.

The highlight was seeing the amazing Harvest bread made by the Thaxted Bakery.

PTA Corner

The PTA are looking forward to our Christmas events starting with our School Christmas Fair on **2nd December** after school!

But in the meantime look out for our Krispy Kreme sale on **Friday 21st October** and our Movie Night and Disco which will be take place after half term.

As ever, we'd love your support whether it be via volunteering at the events or helping us brainstorm ideas.

Contact us via

friendsofthaxted@gmail.com.

