

# Banstead Community Junior School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

## Letter from the Board of Governors of Banstead Community Junior School

The end of each academic year draws near offers the School Governors the opportunity to reflect on the activities of the school over the last term. To celebrate the school's many successes, while preparing for the opportunities the new academic year may present in the autumn.

### About the Governing Body

The governing body's main roles are:

- a) Ensuring clarity of vision, ethos and strategic direction
- b) Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school and its pupils, and the performance management of staff
- c) Overseeing the financial performance of the school and making sure it's money is well spent.

**Governors are committed** to attending regular meetings to consider issues such as setting the school vision, mitigating financial risk, increase parental engagement and scrutinising educational outcomes. The governors bring a wide range of skills and expertise from their professional lives to the governing board, e.g. experience of finance, architecture or human resources. Much of this business 'know-how' is regularly used to help improve the running of the school over recent years.

**The school's objectives** are to provide an excellent level of educational performance alongside enabling all pupils to excel in sports and the arts. In short, "developing pupils to become lifelong learners." This educational offer is made available to all pupils, whether they are disadvantaged, have disabilities or require special/unique needs.

To achieve this, the Governing Body has **two main sub-committees**:

1. *The School Resources Committee* is responsible for providing the facilities required to enable the pupils to have the best possible experience in their education. They focus on the operational side of running the school such as finances, staffing, premises, maintenance, health & safety and safeguarding.
2. *The Teaching and Learning Committee* is responsible for the content of our educational offering (the curriculum) and they work closely with school staff and school managers to ensure that all pupils achieve highly and make excellent progress from their starting points when they join the school through to when they leave 4 years later.

In 2017 the Board of Governors agreed **three priorities** that we continue to tirelessly work towards:

1. Consistency in Teaching Quality (and high academic results)
2. Sound Financial Management
3. Improved Communication



*"Developing pupils to become lifelong learners"*

Firstly, the Governing body would like to **thank all the parents and carers** for their support over the last year. We recognise that Parental and Carer engagement is key to the school's success. This is why we were delighted that the school has been able to welcome many parents and carers into the school for various tours, consultations, forums and careers days over the last year.

The Governors would like to offer a well-earned thanks to the **PTA team** for their energetic fundraising activities. From the Easter Raffle to the Summer Fair, everything was well organised, with the energy and enthusiasm of the PTA raising funds for those extras that enhance the pupils' experience either in the classroom or in the play areas outside is greatly appreciated. Every contribution to these PTA activities is warmly received and always put to good use.

The Year 6 **Junior Apprentice** event in May raised an incredible £1,670! Well done to our entrepreneurial Year 6 and a huge thanks to all of you for your support. The classes have decided to donate the money to Cancer Research, the RSPCA and to BCJS.

This year saw the introduction of the new **CPOMS** (Child Protection Online Monitoring System), an innovative system that revolutionises how schools approach the critical job of ensuring the wellbeing of pupils and staff. This new system helps the school enhance our safeguarding initiatives implemented to keep your children even safer at school. Also, **Arbor** was introduced in April to allow the school, to better communicate with parents/ carers more efficiently and brought all core school data as workflows into one system.

It is particularly exciting to see all the **extra-curricular activities** continuing to enhance and compliment your children's education. A highlight this year was a new **Sports Week** where the children had a great time running the mile on Monday, meeting Courtney Orange on Tuesday and taking part in a Sports Day on the Thursday as well as getting to wear their sporty clothes all week. Congratulations again to team Emerald for winning Sports Day! Well done and thank you to everyone for taking part and showing such good teamwork and sportsmanship. Thank you also to all our spectators, we appreciate your support.

A quick reminder that the school regularly updates an **Amazon Wishlist** from which parents can buy specific gifts for the school such as books, learning tools and technical kit. Alternatively, to make a monetary donation parents can use Arbor, where there is a separate message regarding donating to the School Fund.

Finally, on behalf of the Board, I would like to say a **massive thank you** again for your ongoing support of the pupils, and the staff over the last 12 months. I want to wish all those in Year 6 moving on to the next stage in their educational journey, all the very best and look forward to welcoming all the new Year 3 pupils in the Autumn.

As the summer holidays approach, I hope you can all find ways to enjoy a well-earned break with family and friends. We will see you all again on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September.

Kind regards,



David R Parker

Chair of Governors

On behalf of the Board of Governors of Banstead Community Junior School