

## Castlewood School Governing Body

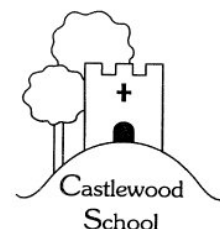
Chair: Mr. David Storer

Vice Chair: Mrs. Mary Page

Castlewood Road  
Southwater  
West Sussex  
RH13 9US

Telephone: 01403 734822

<http://www.castlewood.w-sussex.sch.uk>



July, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of another busy school year, the Governors would like to take the opportunity to share a few updates with you, express our thanks and wish you all the best for the summer holidays.

### Headteacher Recruitment Update

Good progress is being made, working closely with advisors from West Sussex County Council. An advert for the role will be published in the early part of the Autumn term. We are very grateful to Mrs A-B for stepping into the role of Acting Headteacher in the meantime.

We have already asked staff and pupils for their thoughts and ideas on: **‘What qualities do you most value in a new Headteacher for Castlewood?’** While we have strong parent representation on the Governing Board, we would welcome any suggestions from parents/ carers through our Clerk’s email address: [clerk@castlewoodprimary.co.uk](mailto:clerk@castlewoodprimary.co.uk)

### School Funding Constraints

As in all schools at this present time, funding is very tight. The school is expected to do increasingly more with less money – not an easy task! Ensuring that school resources are used for maximum benefit is a key responsibility of the board and we receive regular updates, demonstrating the value Castlewood pupils receive. To help with this, the school has been maximising opportunities to create additional revenue, including lettings to local community groups, such as: Slimming World, Zumba, Southwater FC and Stagecoach. Thank you to Mr Watts and all those involved with this.

### School Events and Achievements

We are extremely proud that, following our recent OFSTED inspection, the school continues to be **Good**. Congratulations to all the staff, pupils and volunteers who work incredibly hard to make our school a wonderful place to learn. This was reflected in the comments from the inspector, so thank you.

The new Daily Mile track has been put to good use this year, being used as part of PE lessons and providing a welcome brain break for pupils. We would like to thank SOCS for their continued efforts with fundraising. Without them, this would not have been possible. Events such as the Blackberry Fair and Easter Egg-stravaganza have been enjoyed by the school community and helped to raise valuable funds.

We have been delighted to hear about, and experience for ourselves, the numerous visits and activities over the academic year. To name a few: Sports Day, Careers Week, The Horsham Children’s Parade, House Day, World Book Day, trips/ visitors to support topics

and various sporting fixtures. It has been quite a year and we would like to thank anyone who has played a part in the organisation of these.

### Governor Impact

We have covered a lot this year and a full report is attached to this newsletter. Examples include: the approval and implementation of the Parental Code of Conduct. This reinforces the need for all staff and members of the school community to be treated with respect, in all interactions: in person, on phone and online.

### Governing Board Changes

This year we have said goodbye to Becky Atkinson (Clerk to Governors) and Richard Sharkey (Co-opted Governor). We would like to thank them for their contribution to Castlewood and wish them luck in their future endeavours.

We are pleased that Mrs Barnard has agreed to be our new Clerk to Governors.

### Reflections

We would like to welcome the new Reception cohort and wish the Year 6 leavers all the best, as they move on to their new Secondary Schools.

Thank you to all our amazing staff for their dedication and hard work – so much goes on behind the scenes and we are very grateful for all you do. Thanks also to all volunteers who have offered their time to support our school.

Finally, we would like to say farewell to our incredible Headteacher, Mrs Nunns. Mrs Nunns has worked tirelessly and navigated the school through difficult times, for 7 years. She has showed amazing resilience, leadership and compassion during her time at Castlewood and will be very much missed. We express our deepest thanks to her and wish her happiness in her future adventures.

We hope you find some time to have a well-deserved break with family and friends over the summer and we look forward to seeing you all again in the Autumn Term.

**David Storer**  
Chair of Governors  
(LA Governor)

**Mary Page**  
Vice Chair  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Rachel Nunns**  
(Headteacher)

**Kirsty Anstee-Brown**  
(Staff Governor)

**Martin Forsyth**  
(Parent Governor)

**Claudine Allen**  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Danni Tresadern**  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Roger Wells**  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Paul Firkins**  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Tom White**  
(Co-Opted Governor)

**Jacqui Richards**  
(Parent Governor)