

Governor Newsletter



July 2023

Changes to our Governing body

Hello to our New Governor!!

We are delighted to announce our new Governor, and a wonderful addition to our small team, Gaye Dove.

Hello, my name is Gaye Dove and I am a newly co-opted governor for Merton Infant School. I moved to Basingstoke about three years ago to help look after two of my youngest grandchildren. They are now at primary school so I am one of the many grandparents doing the daily school run.

I was a primary school teacher before I retired and have kept working in a voluntary capacity as a benevolence officer for a charity. Hopefully some of the skills and experience I have gained over the years will be helpful in supporting the Merton school community and I will do my best to be a useful member of the governing body. I look forward to meeting some of you at school events soon and, as the end of term approaches, take this opportunity to wish you all an enjoyable summer break.

Change of Chair of Governors

As you may be aware our previous chair Emily Mean stepped away from Merton Just after Easter this year, after several years as a governor, leaving a gap for Chair of Governors. Louise Silverton and Gaye Dove will now be performing this role as co-chairs for the school.



YOU can be a school Governor!

We are still looking for people to join our team. If you are interested in supporting the school in any way please let us know.

- Do you want to make a difference?
- Are you looking to develop your skills and experience by volunteering?
- Do you have knowledge and experience you think would add value?
- Can you give just a few hours a month to support the amazing team here at Merton Infant School?

If you think you can, please speak to the office or email them or the co-chair of governors,

adminoffice@merton-inf.hants.sch.uk
or

L.Silverton@merton-inf.hants.sch.uk
for more information.

Merton Values in Action...

Excellence

Merton has retained its EAL gold award this year and is one of the first Infant schools in Hampshire to do so.

EAL stands for English as an Additional Language. Merton prides itself on providing the best possible opportunities for all its pupils, and with a diverse community in school it is essential that this provision includes all pupils where English may not be their first language.

Opportunities

The school council were lucky enough to take a trip to parliament earlier this term, and one of our Governors was fortunate enough to join them so see firsthand how wonderfully the School Council represented Merton Infant School. We got to see where our Government discuss matters, and where the Lords sit to consider bills and laws put before them. We were allowed to stand by the benches, but you are NOT permitted to sit on them or you will be removed by security!

The children also got to enjoy lunch in the Abbey before we headed back, they don't get that view every lunch time.



Teamwork

The governing body would like to also take this opportunity to give a big thank you to the team that is Merton. Thank you to all of the teaching and support staff at Merton as well as all of you, parents, grandparents and carers that contribute toward making Merton the wonderful school that it is. We hope you enjoy the summer break and look forward to welcoming you for the new school year in September!

Many thanks – Gaye and Louise

Reminders for upcoming school key dates:

- 17th July – School Sports day (Weather Permitting!)
- Friday 21st July – Break up for Summer Holidays!
- Monday 4th September - First day back for new school year (years 1 and 2)