

Summer Term letter from Sandhurst Primary School Governing Board

Hello, and a very warm welcome to you if you have recently joined our school community.

As we start the summer term together, we thought it might be helpful to remind you of who we are, what we do and how you can get in touch with us.

We are a group of 17 volunteers, made up of parents, staff and people from the wider school community. You may have seen some of us in the playground or know us through our involvement with Sandalls PTA.

Our newest members are parent governors Alana Ajani and Naomi and they bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience to help support our school:

Alana has two sons, the eldest is in Year Two

“I am currently a member of the PTA committee and have a really strong desire to help Sandhurst Primary continue to be a place where our children are given the best possible opportunity to discover and maximise their full potential irrespective of their colour, class, background or ability. As a parent governor (and a mum!) my biggest hope is that at the end of their journey at Sandhurst, our children will not only have accessed a great education but also emerge as happy, healthy, confident young people.”

Naomi has two children in Year One and Year Three

“My professional background is in family therapy and children’s services. I have experience of working alongside schools and of offering supportive challenge when needed to uphold the needs of children and families. I have particular interests in inclusivity, diversity and emotional wellbeing. I want to help ensure all our children have the best possible opportunities to enjoy school, feel valued, connected and thereby to thrive in their learning.”

At the end of last term, Paul Cooke was also re-elected as a Parent Governor, a role he has held since 2016.

Paul has a daughter in Year Three and his two sons are now at secondary school

“I have been a parent at Sandhurst Primary for the past 10 years. The school has played a massive part in my life over these years and continues to do so. I was heavily involved in the creation of SanDads, and in my role as a Governor I have supported, advised and worked with the school on a number of projects including the merger of the schools, bringing the before and after school care ‘in-house’, the procurement of a new catering supplier and providing HR guidance. I feel that a Governor’s role is to question, support, listen and advise whenever possible to ensure the best learning environment for all of our children.”

Our other parent governors are Debs Honeysett and Richard Johnston. You can find information about them and the rest of us that make up your Sandhurst Primary School Governing Board on our school website:

<https://www.sandhurstprimary.lewisham.sch.uk/introducing-our-governors/>

Our role as governors is to support and challenge the school – rather like a critical friend – to ensure continual improvements to the education of all our pupils. Together with school leaders and staff, we want to ensure that every child at Sandhurst receives a primary education that recognises, nurtures, inspires and stretches them in a progressive, safe and caring environment.

COVID-19 has prevented us from meeting in person for the past two years, but we have continued to support Sandhurst throughout the pandemic by attending committee meetings and full Governing Board meetings remotely. We hope to resume in-person visits to the school later this term and really look forward to meeting you face to face on a school trip or at a school event soon.

Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any comments or questions or if you would like us, as governors, to help you with anything. Come and speak to us, if you see us in the playground, or contact us either via the school office or by email to ssmith354.209@lgflmail.org

We'll be sending out regular termly letters to keep you informed about all the key issues and decisions arising from our Governing Board meetings. And don't forget, minutes from all of our meetings are available on request from the school office.

We look forward to seeing you soon.

With best wishes,

The Sandhurst Governors