Welcome!
Hello Parents/Carers! Welcome to the fourth issue of our newsletter; a governor initiative to promote communication between governors and parents. We have acknowledged parents who have contacted governors this term and, as a result, we are now working on further initiatives.

Letter from the Chair
Dear Parents and Guardians,

I am delighted to say that this term, the school was inspected by Ofsted who found that Beechfield “has significant strengths, particularly in the good provision it makes for pupils’ personal development and well-being and for their pastoral support”

The report goes on to say that “pupils feel safe”. Furthermore the lead inspector comments that “The classrooms provide a well-resourced learning environment and the outdoor area is used effectively”.

The governors are extremely pleased that the inspectors found our school to be a safe one and a strong educational environment where pupils can flourish and meet their full potential.

The Governing Body would like to thank all members of staff for their continued dedication, hard work and commitment especially leading up to and throughout the inspection. Governors are mindful that all staff worked well beyond the school day in preparation for the inspection.

You may have seen that our school is expanding. This is an exciting prospect and will see a new building on the school site with improved facilities within the existing building. Hopefully, I will be able to clarify details in our next newsletter.

The school continues to maintain a well-balanced and healthy budget. Finance is carefully monitored using best value practice to ensure that expenditure gives good value for money across all areas of the curriculum and in school development projects.

The Governing Body and I wish you and your family a very Happy Easter break.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. G L Gibsone
Chair of Governors
Governor Spotlight – Bob Phillips  Vice Chair

My three children have all been pupils at Beechfield School. My eldest child is now at college studying Childcare, I have one son in Year 10 and my youngest son is in Year 8. I originally became a Governor to help support the school and to become involved in decision making and school development projects.

During my service at Beechfield I have experienced 3 Ofsted inspections under three different Headteachers.

After leaving school I spent 12 years in the army and on leaving I held various management positions in large warehouses before starting my own business in Devon. On selling my business I moved to London where I worked in social housing; running a site in Bushey for homeless families.

When my wife became ill I stopped work to look after her and we moved to our current address 11 years ago and I joined the Governing Body. In the time I have been a governor I have always been on the Premises Committee and now chair that particular committee.

Since 2010 I have been registered disabled due to arthritis and a heart condition. Beechfield has become a way of life for my family since myself, my wife and daughter all volunteer at the school in different capacities.

Sub Committee Updates

The Premises Committee:
We have looked at the proposed plans for the school house and discussed how the house may be used. We have monitored the accident book for any trends in accidents. We have passed many policies and procedures and continue to monitor safeguarding and health and safety within the school.

The Personnel Committee: Once again we have been busy assisting Miss Roberts with the recruitment of new staff, ensuring that all relevant training and performance management reviews are completed.

The Finance Committee: The committee monitors and authorises all aspects of school financial management ensuring a well-balanced and healthy budget is maintained. This ensures that the school provides value for money and that each and every pupil benefits from school spending.

The Curriculum and School Improvement Committee:

This year it was decided to form a School Improvement and Curriculum Committee in order to focus on pupils’ progress and attainment in the school. All teachers regularly monitor the children’s work and Miss. Roberts provides a detailed summary for the committee. In addition we have a report on progress in one particular subject such as maths, or ICT at each meeting.
Each year the school sets priorities in its School Development Plan, so the committee always asks what progress is being made in these areas.

Miss Starkl provides a report on how the school is supporting those children who need extra help or support with their learning and it is our job to ensure that the steps taken are effective.

We also hear about the fun events organised by the school, such as the visit to the Christmas pantomime and Sing-up Day which everyone enjoys so much.

**Easter Greetings**

This term has been a busy and productive one. Governors have been committed to carrying out their subject link meetings, class visits and attending committee meetings.

Finally, greetings to all staff, parents, carers and pupils and best wishes for your termly break.

**How to get in touch with us**

The best way to contact a governor is by writing a letter to the school, addressed to either a specific governor, the Chair or to the governing body.

Please note that should you have any concerns regarding the day to day running of the school or a matter concerning your child, these should be discussed with your child’s teacher or Miss Roberts in the first instance.