

GOVERNOR CHAT

Edition One - October 2022

FROM THE CHAIR OF GOVERNORS



Welcome to the very 1st edition of Governor Chat, a termly newsletter for you, our parents. In future editions of Governor Chat I will introduce you to what Governors do and how we help the school achieve its goals. I will also introduce you to each of our Governors so you can get to know us better and say hello when you pass us in the street or see us in school.

Let me start by introducing myself. My name is Ashley de Safrin. I have been Governor at Ramsbury for the past 7 years and Chair for 3 of those years. I retired quite some years ago. In my working life I was a Management Consultant advising restaurants and hotels. In retirement I run several U3A (University of the 3rd age) groups, including a classic car group, a Scrabble group and an advanced French group. I have a strong interest in foreign languages, and love travelling, theatre and caring for our lovely black Labrador, Cookie. Although I have no children of my own, I was lucky enough to receive a top-class education and am keen that young people should have similar opportunities. At Ramsbury I am confident your children really do have that opportunity.

We are always delighted to talk to you about the school. The running of the school, the standards of teaching and the way the curriculum is put together fall under the eye of our wonderful Head Teacher, Miss Price. Our role as Governors is to agree the school's strategy and to make sure that we manage our finances as well as possible, while giving your children the best possible education.

THE SCHOOL'S 'ECO' STRATEGY

We have 3 key priorities in the coming year and beyond. These can be summarised as:

ECO

- Energy
- Communication
- OFSTED



ENERGY

Everybody is looking at being more energy efficient. As well as being good for the planet, the current energy crisis has brought this sharply into focus. We have no idea if prices will eventually come down or what help the Government will be able to give us in the longer term. While our school is better off than many, the more money we can save through energy efficiency, the more we can put into the education of your children. One of our Governors is therefore looking at how we can save more energy now and what we need to do in the longer run to make further savings.



COMMUNICATION

Communication is important to every organisation. Ramsbury Primary School is no exception. We talk to the world through our website, local magazines and through newspapers. We talk to our pupils through our teachers and we talk to you via Parent Mail and, now, Governor Chat. Parents also talk to each other through social media and face to face. Communication is a two way + process, so we welcome your feedback on any subject relating to the school. Communication though is a sensitive process. We trust our Head Teacher and her fantastic colleagues to create a safe environment for your children in which to learn. Sometimes though, discussion on social media can appear to undermine what we do. If you do have any issues, please speak to us first. One of our Governors will be looking at the way we communicate and seeing if we could be doing anything better.



OFSTED

The most important priority of all is the finest education for your children. This is our key aim. As you know we have been rated 'Outstanding' by OFSTED. We were last inspected by OFSTED in 2009, as a full inspection and how we teach English was inspected in 2013. Since then OFSTED requirements have been revised. We know we are due to be inspected at some point between now and 2026. Our challenge is to remain Outstanding. We have adapted to the new, highly demanding requirements and we aim to keep our rating, but nothing is certain, as many previously Outstanding schools are being downgraded. We can therefore never afford to be complacent and our teaching staff have ambitious plans to keep improving. We aspire though to being one of the leading rural primary schools in England.

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