



AUTUMN TERM 2018

GOVERNOR NEWS

Welcome to the Prince of Wales School Governor Newsletter - a message and update from your Board of Governors

“Where do they get all their money from?”

In a climate of continued funding cuts across education and with all the changes and improvements taking place across the school - time and time again we hear the question “Where do they get all their money from?”

The Board of Governors thought it might be useful to dedicate this newsletter to answering that question and explain a bit about how the school financing works.

The Prince of Wales School is funded in the same way as any other Local Authority controlled school. In real-terms, the amount of money we receive per pupil has been decreasing for the last eight years.

“The majority of the improvements you can see around school are the result of successful grant applications (or POWSA donations), the hard work of volunteers and the result of our whole community going the “extra mile” to make The Prince of Wales School be the very best it can be! This goodwill support is invaluable to our school’s success.”

Martin Butcher, Chair of Governors,
December 2018

Funding for pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities has always been challenging and for a long time our main school budget has heavily subsidised our unit roll budget.

To date, we have off-set decreasing funding by generating additional income. That additional income comes from lettings, our breakfast and after-school

programme (CAPOW) and Pre-School provision. Since September 2017, our budget has also been heavily subsidised by increases in lettings and by:

- Tesco Bags for Help Scheme - £4,000 Grant



- Sugar Tax - £14,000 Grant



- Big Lottery Fund - £10,000 Grant



LOTTERY FUNDED

- POWSA - £24,000 Donations



We would like to publicly thank everyone who continues to make our rapid improvement possible. You know who you are!

Our approach is to use this additional finance and goodwill to improve the learning environment, resources and opportunities for children currently on role. We keep a small reserve for ‘the unforeseen’ and to be able to respond to the changing needs of individuals and small groups.

What does the future look like?

While funding for our main school budget continues to decrease in real-terms and costs for essential services rise, we will continue to be challenged to deliver a balanced budget.

In addition to this, proposed Dorset County Council cuts to the funding of pupils with Special Educational Needs and Disabilities will only make things more challenging.

As a Governing Body we are committed to -

- Using the budget provided by DCC to deliver a high quality experience for current pupils neither creating large future reserves nor licenced deficits.
- Maintaining our fundraising, and hopefully goodwill and voluntary efforts, to continually upgrade our environment and renew our resources so that current and future pupils receive an excellent learning experience.
- Reviewing practices in a timely manner so that we remain efficient and effective.

These are financially challenging times but The Prince of Wales School is extremely fortunate to have an incredibly supportive and pro-active community that regularly goes above and beyond expectations to support the school.

We can't thank you enough.





Meet your Governors

School governors are volunteers who help to run the school.

They support the Headteacher, but also ask questions and make sure leadership is taking the school in the right direction.



Martin Butcher
Chair of Governors
"When I walk around the school I see confident, enthusiastic and happy learners achieving their very best- it makes my day!"

m.butcher@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk



Tim Emerton
Vice-Chair of Governors
"Proud to have been a small part of the schools amazing transition over the last two years, onwards and upwards. #InspiredToGovern"

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Julia Nineham
Co-opted Governor
"Over the past year the pre-school has intergrated effectively with the main school enabling smooth transitions and sharing of knowledge and expertise."

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Gemma Richardson
Parent Governor
"Inspiration is used a lot in the context of POW...and I think quite rightly so, from the people to the changes taking place...it is an inspirational place indeed."

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Simone Greenfield
Parent Governor
"The POW is a true community school. With its motivated headteacher, enthusiastic and dedicated staff and a team of tireless volunteers, our children are learning whilst having fun!"

s.greenfield@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk



Emma Moysey
Parent Governor
"We are watching our children thrive in such a positive environment. They are happy, motivated and engaged- such an exciting future ahead at POW."

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Gary Spracklen
Headteacher
'Governance at The Prince of Wales School is now strong and increasingly robust. We are just getting started though... there is so much more to come!'

headteacher@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk



Barbara Thomas
Staff Governor
"Excitement and enthusiasm shines through the school - from the 3 year olds to the 83 year olds who have helped make this such a wonderful inspiring place to come to learn and work."

b.thomas@princeofwales.dorset.sch.uk



Clare Tarling
Co-Opted Governor
"Gary Spracklen has seen the potential of our school and has unlocked it - creating huge amounts of motivation. Being a part of this change as a governor has been an absolute privilege."

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Suzanne Rideout
Co-Opted Governor
"Its been great to join the governing body in a year full of so many positive changes - and wonderful to see enthusiastic and happy children who are engaging in such creative and inspiring activities."

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Just to note...we currently have a vacancy for a Governor role, please send expressions of interest to the Chair.