

Governor Newsletter July 2024

As we reach the end of another term (and the school year), we are keen to keep you up to date with what your school governors have been doing and what our roles and responsibilities are. If you haven't already, please do take a few minutes to meet the current team and find out a little more about us on the school [website](#).

We take it in turns to write our newsletters and this time it is my turn. My name is Kay Roantree and I have been a co-opted governor at school for two years, having spent the previous three years bringing my three grandchildren to Knavesmire's excellent nursery. I am a retired headteacher, specialising in early years education, and was keen that my grandchildren benefitted from all the experiences offered by an educational nursery.

The governors have collectively spent a good deal of time in school since we last wrote to you. We have held two meetings covering a range of issues including looking at progress with the school development plan and considering how as a governing body, we strengthen our work and impact across school. A significant part of our role is in monitoring and supporting the work of the school. To do that we need to get in to school on a regular basis and in the last few months, all governors have been into school. Topics we covered included:

- Discussing the school's approach to using social media and managing the publication and opt-outs from publication of photos
- Reviewing safeguarding systems in place and discussing the school's approach to supporting children to attend school daily.
- Discussing how the early years areas are set up and plans going forward including developing the outdoor area.
- Reviewing school performance data in depth and understanding how the data is used to support future planning.
- Attending school assembly to get a feel for the school ethos and KPS character.

On behalf of all the governors, I would like to thank the staff for the time they set aside to talk to governors about their work at the school, including sharing their knowledge and understanding about how they lead in their specialist areas. Thanks also to all the children who have also taken an active role in talking to governors and answering all their questions.

This last newsletter of the year also gives all governors a chance to say another goodbye to Abigail Gaines. Thank you, Abigail, for the time, dedication and commitment you have given to your role as governor and vice-chairman over the last 8 years. You have made a tremendous difference in many ways, and we will miss your insights and longstanding knowledge of the school and community. Abigail was our link governor with The Friends too – an important connection. We wish you well in the future as you continue to serve the local community in volunteering roles, including the Friends of Rowntree Park and as a new governor at Millthorpe.

As Abigail leaves, we welcome our new co-opted governor Thom Jones. Thom has two children at the school. He has attended his first meeting, and we'll share more about his background and what he has to offer the school when we return in September.

Far too many amazing things have happened in school this year to mention in this short space - you will have seen it all weekly in the newsletters! A huge thank you to all the staff, students, and parents for what you do. Also thank you to the Friends of Knavesmire who fundraise for the school's enrichment activities. Together we continue to create an amazing and outstanding school community that we are proud to be part of.

Wishing you all a lovely summer break!