

# Exminster

## Community Primary School



Mrs S.L. Whalley



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This newsletter focuses on our school governors. I would like to thank the governors for the time, support and challenge that they offer our school. They have a huge strategic and accountable role which is done on a volunteer basis. All our governors donate so much time to their role and are exceptionally proactive. Below is an outline of who the governing body are and a little bit about them. Some of our governors will be around school on the parent-teacher interview evenings – do come and have a chat with them.



**Libby Ash**

I enjoy being a parent governor at Exminster Community Primary School. My role is presently that of Chair of Governors.

I have two daughters who attend the school. I am always so impressed with the energy, enthusiasm and caring and supportive nature of pupils and adults at the school.

I applied to be a parent governor to support the school and meet the whole school community while representing the views of parents and carers. I really enjoy visiting the school and experiencing first-hand some of the things that we have discussed in meetings. During the visits I have seen and heard, from children and adults, that there is a buzz of excitement about learning at the school.

I look forward to continuing to support the school community in delivering the EPIC values with all children at the school.

Governors play an exceptionally important role in the strategic running of the school. We are lucky to have such pro-active governors with real areas of expertise needed for the development of the school.

In my role as head, I have worked closely with our governors, drawing on their experience.

Governors are the school's 'critical friend', there to question, challenge and support.



**Sarah Whalley**

### Accreditations and Associations



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**Dawn Fuller**

I am a staff governor who also has a child who has completed her primary education at Exminster Primary School.

As a parent and member of staff, I feel that becoming a governor enables me to support the hard work done by everyone at school in a wider role. It is important that all members of staff are represented and, through my varied roles at work, I feel able to support the wide range of staff within the school.

The reason I became a parent governor was to be more actively involved in the school as a whole. Being able to see first-hand what our children are up to, and how we make a difference to their future, is a great privilege.

I love Exminster and the value the school brings to the village is something I want to maintain. With even more changes ahead it is both an exciting and challenging prospect to be part of such a journey.



**Karen Sharpe**

I am a Local Authority appointed governor. My particular interests are Special Educational Needs and the school curriculum.

I enjoy supporting our Headteacher with her vision for the progress, development and change within all areas of the school.



**Alwyn Reeves**

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I have enjoyed being involved with the school as a Book Buddy over the past five years or so. I feel that I can support the school, in future, in a number of ways. I was a teacher for 13 years, a Deputy Head in a large Community College for 12 years and an Education Adviser for the government for 11 years. I have been an OFSTED inspector for 12 years as well as an Education Consultant during that period. I am now retired from all those activities and focus on Rotary, art and golf. I have some time and expertise to support the school in it's development in the community, helping to raise expectations for all its pupils so that they can achieve the best for their futures. I bring some expertise in evaluating classroom and school performance and a commitment to help, support and advise on curriculum matters, in particular.



**Gordon Peacock**

I am a parent governor. I presently have one daughter at Exminster Primary School, with another who successfully transferred onto secondary education.

I work in a village primary school on the outskirts of Exeter and I firmly believe that children should receive a broad and balanced education with opportunities outside the classroom. It is a great experience being a school governor, you get to support growth and change as the School evolves. The school has a great enthusiasm and commitment to the children and it is enjoyable being a part of this.



**Sue Wilkinson**

I feel that my work experiences give me a range of skills that will be useful in my role as a governor. As a resident of Exminster, and with a daughter at the school, I hope to use my skills as a human resource specialist to help and support the school in its efforts to continue to improve the educational outcomes of its children. I also feel that as a governor I will be contributing to my local community.



**Richard Vain**

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**Becky Mason**

I am a parent governor. I have two sons currently attending the school. I am a PE teacher and School Sport Coordinator based at South Dartmoor Community College. I teach out in many primary schools, run training courses and organise participation and competitive events as part of the Dartmoor School Sport Partnership.

I have learnt a great deal about the running of our school since becoming a governor and have new appreciation and total respect to the dedication and enthusiasm of our staff and other governors! It is great to be part of a team of people who all have one aim – to ensure that Exminster Community Primary School is a happy and successful place to learn and work in.

I have lived in Exminster for many years during which my 3 children have benefitted from the Exminster Community Primary School experience. So it is time for us to give something back.

I enjoyed supporting the school community with the Phase 7 development and look forward to continuing to support the school through other sites and buildings related issues.



**Simon Palmer**

I have a daughter who currently attends Exminster Primary School.

My reason for wanting to become a governor is to try and support, in any way I can, an especially dedicated team of teachers, support staff and active group of governors.

My background is unconventional, ranging from insurance claims assessment to interior management of large private yachts, property development, facilities management and now starting my own small business.

I am looking forward to helping the school through improvement of areas such as the exterior space.



**Ian Beer**

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I live Alphington and during the working week I am an Associate Solicitor specialising in commercial and residential property. I became a Governor to further my involvement in governance and strategic management. Also, with a sister who is a primary school teacher in Bedfordshire and my wife being a manager for the teacher training provision at Exeter University I had an interest in developing my knowledge in education and teaching. I volunteer for St John Ambulance and I am also the South District Volunteer HR Officer. I work part-time for the Ambulance Services, backfilling the least urgent jobs for the NHS. My wife and I also volunteer for Guide Dogs, boarding trainee guide dogs whilst they undertake their advanced training locally. I look forward to meeting the parents and children at Exminster and to working with my fellow governors in the continual improvement of our school.



**Tony Fripp**

### Birthdays

Whilst we know how excited children can get when it is their birthday, unfortunately we cannot give out birthday cake or sweets to their classmates. We have a number of children in the school with severe allergies and we would not like these children to feel excluded from the celebrations. We do keep birthday hats in the office and children are welcome to borrow these from us to wear in school on their special day.

### Tempest Photography

Tempest Photography will be visiting the school on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September for the annual photographs.

Tempest will be in school from 8.30am onwards to take photos of families with children under school age. Please line up at the board in the hall to take your turn. All children of school age must go to classes at 8.55am to register and may return afterwards if they still need to be photographed with their pre-school age siblings.

Whilst we endeavour to ensure children look their best, we cannot take responsibility for the hair styling and appearance of each individual child.

### Christmas Cards

Once again the children will be designing Christmas cards this year and packs of the cards will be available for you to purchase. The cards, order forms and a letter explaining how to pay via Parentpay will be sent home on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> October.

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### Head Lice

Head lice are very common amongst primary school children and can easily be transferred by head to head contact. Prevention is the key and we would therefore recommend that all long hair is tied back and that you check your child's head on a weekly basis. Unfortunately head lice are becoming more resistant to chemicals and we have found the most effective treatment is to apply lots of conditioner and comb thoroughly using a nit comb before rinsing out.

### Parish Council

The Parish Council will be holding an official opening of the new facilities up at Deepway Green on Saturday 26 September at 11:00. It would be great to see the facilities in use by members of the community as press have been invited to capture the event. There will also be a display on the skate park by a professional rider.

### Have you got an old clock that you'd like to become part of a spectacular art installation?

Thanks to winning a public vote, Thelma Hulbert Gallery in Honiton has the opportunity to work with artist Luke Jerram for this year's *Museums at Night* festival. We are now calling on the community to play an important part in Luke's installation by donating clocks.

We need 1,000 clocks before October. The clocks can be any shape or size, working or not working. If you have any stories or memories relating to your donated clock, please include a written note too. Please note the clocks need to be donated to the gallery and cannot be returned.

There will be a box by the school office for any donations.

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