

**Please contact us:****Email:**

[KPSGovernors@welearn365.com](mailto:KPSGovernors@welearn365.com)

**Call or Write:**

Via the school office (01926 640397).

**In person:**

Whenever you see us... in the playground, or at one of our events. You will find our photos below to help you recognise us!

**Chair's Update**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's an absolute privilege to take on the role of Chair of the Governing Body. I've had a busy few months getting up to speed with the role and I'm very fortunate to be supported by a wonderful team of governors and Sally, our clerk.

It's also been lovely to come into school more regularly after the pandemic and governors have been able to do some of the more hands-on aspects of governance recently.

I am delighted to welcome Adam Sharpe as our newly elected Parent Governor. Also joining us and bringing a wealth of experience both in the school sector and outside are Jennie May and Jill Lawrence as Associate Governors.

I want to make a special mention for Mrs Barritt whose four year term as Staff Governor has come to an end. I'm sure I speak for the whole of the Governing Body in thanking you, Mrs Barritt, for all your contributions to our activities and meetings. It's been a pleasure working with you. Recognising the importance of having the perspective of the staff team on our governing body, we are keen to elect a new Staff Governor and have started the process to do so.

This term we have been focusing on:

- Developing our governor monitoring plan for the rest of the school year.
- Assigning some new link roles for areas of focus in the School Improvement Plan and for important areas such as Safeguarding. Given the number of relatively new governors and recent departures of long-standing governors, we have been spending some time training and getting up to speed with our new responsibilities.
- Refining our structure further following recent changes to make sure it allows us to have effective and timely oversight, works for all governors and aligns to the MAT scheme of delegation of authority. We will reduce the number of meetings we have from nine to six and, if necessary, we will carry out some of our delegated responsibilities between meetings with link governors reporting back to all governors. This will give individual governors more time to carry out their delegated activities and create more space for training and responsibilities outside meetings.

Engagement with you is something we've talked about too. With parents' evenings now being online, there are less opportunities for governors to meet with parents and hear their views. We're reviewing how we engage with you in future and have some ideas which we'll start putting into place soon. In the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch with me or any of the other governors if you have anything you'd like to discuss.

Wishing you all a very happy Easter - hopefully with some much warmer weather too!

Best wishes,

**Sophie Knee-Higgins**

*Chair of Governors, Kineton Primary School*



# Governor Newsletter

Spring 2023



**MINUTES FOR ALL OF THE GOVERNORS' MEETINGS ARE AVAILABLE FROM THE SCHOOL OFFICE, OR BY CONTACTING SOPHIE AT THE ABOVE EMAIL ADDRESS.**

## An Update from Performance and Standards

I have recently become involved with monitoring Performance and Standards and the focus for this is based on the School Improvement Plan. From this we identify areas that we will be focusing on for the Monitoring Plan to help ensure all pupils make good progress and are supported to reach their potential. So far this year Governors monitored Early Years Foundation Stage. This was earlier in the year finding the Reception class had settled in well. We monitored Collective Worship and enjoyed a great assembly that was interactive and linked to the School Values and also Maths finding pupils were engaged in their activity or lesson.

Further monitoring will take place next term.

**Sally Stanton** –*Performance and Standards Lead*

## An Update from Resource and Finance

I am pleased to advise that I recently met with the school Business Manager, Mrs Lalonde-Villemin, and Mrs Pollard to review the monthly financial reports provided to us by our accountant. Now that we are part of a Multi Academy Trust we receive monthly updates, and I can report that we are in a good position at present.

School has been allocated an Energy Efficiency Grant by central government and we are planning to use this to update and replace the lighting throughout the school to much more energy efficient LED lighting. School led tutoring continues in our school but with a reduced level of government subsidy. Children in Years 2, 4, 5 and 6 are currently benefiting from the scheme. I plan to review the new reports on a monthly basis going forward, and our Governing Body will have regular oversight too.

**Elizabeth Walsham-Gray** –*Resources and Finance Lead*

## Life Keys



Life Keys is a platform for sharing learning, exploring meaning, growing community and deepening faith. It's open to people of all faiths and beliefs that want to share and grow in life skills, explore faith, and work together to help build a better community.

This last half term we've been using our new digital platform (Life Keys) to share more detail (for adults) on the theme we've been exploring with the children in our assemblies.

Next term we are hoping to use it for exploring a theme called, '**The Questions Children Ask.**' What do we answer when children ask, 'What is God like?', 'Where is heaven?', 'How did [name] get to heaven?', 'Was Jesus a real person?', 'Why does God let bad things happen?', etc.

You can sign up for an account on <https://life-keys.co.uk> or you can download the Life Keys app from the links below.



Reverend Barry Jackson

## Current Governing Board 2022/2023

 <p><b>Sophie Knee-Higgins</b> Chair of Governors</p>	 <p><b>Helen Sayers</b> Vice-Chair Foundation and SEND Governor</p>	 <p><b>Margaret Pollard</b> Headteacher</p>	 <p><b>Katie Barritt</b> Staff Governor (standing down)</p>
 <p><b>Elizabeth Walsham-Gray</b> Foundation Governor Resources and Finance Lead</p>	 <p><b>Janet Nelson</b> Chair of Premises Committee Safeguarding (e-safety) Foundation Governor</p>	 <p><b>Rev. Barry Jackson</b> Ex-officio</p>	 <p><b>Sally Stanton</b> Foundation Governor  Performance and Standards Lead</p>
 <p><b>Michelle Cahill</b> Parent Governor</p>	 <p><b>Adam Sharpe</b> Parent Governor</p>	 <p><b>Judy Ashton</b> Foundation Governor Safeguarding Lead</p>	 <p><b>Kate Brookes</b> Co-opted Governor</p>
 <p><b>Jill Lawrence</b> Associate Governor</p>	 <p><b>Judith Price</b> Associate Governor</p>	<p><b>Jennie May</b> Associate Governor</p>	

## Meet The Governors

### Adam Sharpe – Parent Governor



I'm really pleased to join the governing body at Kineton Primary School. We have two children Oliver in Class R and Harry who is currently at playgroup at Helen's Place. When the opportunity to join the body became available whilst the boys still had so much to gain from the school it seemed the perfect opportunity to get involved as a parent governor – it's something I've found appealing for a while and I almost signed up when Playgroup were asking for Committee members but it didn't feel the right time for me to take something on. I hope to have a truly positive impact on the school and the opportunities offered to all the children.

We have lived in Kineton for almost 10 years now and the time has flown past – we love the village and the facilities available here as well as the sense of community which has been amplified by a) having a dog and meeting lots of lovely people walking and b) having kids and meeting lots of other people desperately learning how to parent. This feels like an opportunity to give something back and help promote the sense of community we feel.

I work full time at Jaguar Land Rover having held a variety of roles in the business over the last 11 years, currently acting as Business Manager in support of the Engineering Operations director and wider team. Between my business background and having served as treasurer for a limited company promoting sports in Bishops' Itchington, I hope I bring some valuable experience to the body along with my role of acting as a representative parent.

I'm looking forward to learning more about the school, the role of the body and working alongside the team to promote the best possible environment for the children who attend.



# Governor Newsletter

Spring 2023



## Meet The Governors

### Judy Ashton – Foundation Governor



I am privileged to join the governing body at Kineton Primary School as a Foundation Governor. I worship at St. Peter's Church where I am part of the ministry leadership team and music group and also host and co-lead a homegroup.

I enjoy gardening and the outdoors, walking, swimming in the lake at Compton Verney and playing and listening to music. I live in Kineton with husband Pete and 2 sprocker spaniels. We have 7 grandchildren, 2 living in Japan, 3 in Abu Dhabi and 2 in London. I love spending long summers with the grandchildren when they come to stay.

I have been a primary school teacher and for more than 20 years was a peripatetic music teacher with Warwickshire Music Service, visiting many primary schools across south Warwickshire including Kineton. I'm now retired and volunteer at school listening to readers and also lead assemblies as part of vicar Barry's team.

I hope that as a governor I can give caring and understanding support to our amazing school.

## Meet The Governors

### Jill Lawrence – Association Governor



I am delighted to be joining the governing body of Kineton Primary School as an Associate Governor. I have lived in the Kineton/Little Kineton area for over 35 years and both my children attended the school.

I have recently taken early retirement and am keen to use my time to support the village and the wider area. Some of you will recognise me from the Toddler Group where I take my turn on the Mother's Union rota helping with refreshments. I am a volunteer at the Salvation Army Homeless Drop-In centre in Leamington Spa. I am also busy supporting my elderly mother who lives in a care home in Bedfordshire.

I believe my work experience will be of great assistance to the school. My primary career was in Human Resources in a variety of sectors. Latterly I spent 16 years working at the Girls' Grammar School in Stratford as the Data Manager, focusing on tracking student performance, taking the lead on data protection and managing the school information system amongst many other things.

I attend St. Peter's Church and sing in the worship group. I am a member of Kineton Sports and Social Club and can often be found competing in quizzes with my husband Michael and other friends. I enjoy walking, travel, attending comedy shows and watching live sport, especially cricket.

I look forward to reacquainting myself with the school and contributing to its ongoing success.