



# Lanesend Primary

## Governor & Volunteer Newsletter

Welcome to edition three of our Governor and Volunteer Newsletter.

This time the focus is on the role on **attendance** at the school. Attendance is always the first main agenda item on every Full Governors Meeting (FGB). It continues to be a Governor priority due to the very clear link between attendance and educational attainment; just Google "*the link between attendance and achievement at school*" and there are countless studies and reports. These are not always straightforward to read but they point to a whole variety of negative impacts on a child's life from missing days at school.

Also, it seems here at Lanesend something amazing happens every day, it's such a shame to miss out!

It is also important to remember that classes cannot be repeated for absentees - what is missed, is missed forever.

At the recent FGB, we were informed that attendance this year is down on the same period last year. Consequently, we all agreed to display our attendance performance and targets more prominently across the school. Some schools use a **traffic light system** but in true British style we are going to relate ours to the weather!

### Lanesend Primary – Attendance Forecast

	Attendance	Days Lost	Days at School	Impact
	Below 90.0%	More than 19	Less than 171	Child is officially a persistent absentee. Potential for legal action
	90.0%	19	171	Child will find it very difficult to progress. Meetings at school to discuss.
	92.5%	14	176	Harder for your child to progress
	95.0%	9	181	Better chance to progress
	96.5%	7	183	Good chance of success
	97.65%	4	186	Lanesend Target 2016-17
	100.0%	0	190	PERFECT!!!



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## Governor Update

The **Parent Council** has continued this term. A smaller number of people attended this time, but the discussion was lively and productive. As a result of what we talked about, positive changes have already been made to the weekly newsletter and to homework in KS1. We will inform everyone of the date for the next meeting as soon as possible. We'd love to have a few more family members come along, particularly those with children in KS2. Please contact [karen.herbert-duff@lanesendpri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:karen.herbert-duff@lanesendpri.iow.sch.uk) if you want to know more about the Council.

Apart from the Parent Council, there are loads of other ways families can help out (see the box below). We are seeing if we can work out a way of **measuring the value of volunteer work** at our school in terms of the impact it has for our children. This might prove difficult to do precisely, but it is important to do as we know it is extremely important. Every bit of assistance you can give is very valuable.

As well as attendance, **sport** is another key Governor priority here at Lanesend. We are all keen on promoting inclusion, variety and performance. With the fantastic facilities we have, we can really make this an area in which we can excel. We are delighted that we have been recently awarded the silver award for sport recently. The next target is, of course, gold!

As Governors we are always trying to plan ahead. A key part of the role is setting the **strategic direction** of the school; assessing where we are now and determining where we want to get to. It is then a matter of ensuring this is achievable and affordable. Our school has made amazing progress over the last few years and is increasingly the school of choice for many in the area. Our growing numbers (up 15% on last year) do present challenges, particularly around maintaining the **small learning groups** that ensure every child has an individualised learning experience. We will continue to support Mrs Sice and Team Lanesend to overcome all such challenges and keep Lanesend moving forward. Thank you for reading.

### Volunteering Opportunities

Governors / Parent Council / Mentoring / Reading in school / Fundraising / Organising events / LEAF / Afterschool club help / Teaching specialist skills (such as music or drama) / Sports coaching / School trips / Gardening / Painting / Help with the chickens.....the list is endless!

Come to our Volunteer Open Day to find out more. It's on 24<sup>th</sup> November between 9.30am and 2.00pm.

Any questions contact Chloe Johnson on 01983 293233 or [aen-dept@lanesendpri.iow.sch.uk](mailto:aen-dept@lanesendpri.iow.sch.uk)