



# Governor Newsletter - December 2025

## [A Message from the Governing Board](#)

Dear Parents and Carers of Parklands,

We are delighted to share the latest updates from the Parklands Governing Board. This newsletter celebrates the hard work and dedication of all our staff, who are strongly supported by our governing board, who play a vital role in shaping the vision and success of our school. From strategic planning and wellbeing initiatives to supporting staff and pupils, our governors are committed to ensuring Parklands continues to thrive as a safe, inclusive, and high-achieving community.

In this edition, you'll find highlights from our recent achievements, upcoming events, and important messages about communication and collaboration. Thank you for being part of our journey—together, we make Parklands the best it can be.

Warm wishes,

David Millican and the Governing Board



1 - David Millican, Chair of Governors

## Highlights of the Term

### A Term of Success

#### *Outstanding Results*

Last year's key stage 2 results were fantastic, reflecting the hard work of pupils and staff. These achievements are something we can all be proud of!

#### *Successful West Sussex County Council Visit*

We were delighted to receive such positive feedback during the recent visit from West Sussex. The advisor praised the improvements across the school and the commitment of staff and governors to continuous development.

#### *Health & Safety Audit*

We also successfully passed our Health & Safety audit from West Sussex, confirming that our school is compliant and maintaining the highest standards of safety for pupils and staff.

## Who are we?

### Meet Your Governors

Our governors have written personal pen portraits, now available on our school website, so you can learn more about the people guiding our vision. [Click here](#)

We are thrilled to welcome a new Parent Governor, Mandy Kellermann, who was successfully elected to the board. Her experience and enthusiasm will be a great asset to our team.

## Governor Away Day

### Strategic Thinking for the Future

Governors recently joined the Senior Leadership Team for an away day focused on key priorities and national challenges:

#### **Special Educational Needs**

Parklands has a strong reputation for supporting children with SEND, and we explored ways to build on this success. We discussed the growing number of children with additional needs and the need for more of funding from the local authority to support them. We talked about additional support that we can provide to ensure our teachers are feeling more confident and able to ensure every child can 'Be the Best they can be!'

#### **Wellbeing & Recruitment**

We talked about ensuring that all staff feel well supported to deliver the best possible teaching for all our children

This day reinforced our shared commitment to making Parklands the best school in the area—where children thrive and everyone feels valued.



## Wellbeing & Recruitment

### Putting People First

We have a dedicated Wellbeing Team made up of teaching assistants, teachers, leaders, and governors.

Our goal is clear:

- Support staff wellbeing.
- Attract and retain the best teachers.
- Ensure Parklands remains a nurturing, high-performing school for every child.
- We know that happy staff create happy classrooms, and this remains a top priority for us.



## Budget & Curriculum

### Facing Challenges, Staying Focused

Budgets remain a challenge nationally, but our priority is unwavering:

- Deliver the best possible curriculum.
- Create an environment where every child can succeed.
- Despite financial pressures, we are committed to maintaining high standards and enriching opportunities for all pupils.

## Farewell and Heartfelt Thanks to Mrs Thompson

As we come to the end of term, we would like to extend our deepest gratitude to **Mrs Thompson**, who is stepping back from her senior leadership role after many years of dedicated service to Parklands. Her unwavering commitment, compassion and expertise have shaped the lives of countless children, and her influence can be felt in every corner of the school.

Mrs Thompson has been a steady, thoughtful and reassuring presence for pupils, staff and families alike. She has championed children’s wellbeing, nurtured their confidence, and supported staff with kindness and wisdom. Her leadership has helped create the warm, inclusive ethos we are so proud of today.

Although we will miss her in the day-to-day life of the senior leadership team, we are delighted that this is not a goodbye. We know she will be back in the new year, continuing to support the school by covering classes and being part of our wider team—something we are incredibly thankful for.

On behalf of the governors, staff, families and children: **thank you, Mrs Thompson, for everything you have given to Parklands.** We wish you joy, rest and fulfilment in this next chapter, and we look forward to welcoming you back through our classroom doors very soon.



## Social Media & Communication

### Let's Keep Communication Positive

We know that social media can be a useful tool, but it also brings challenges. Recently, WhatsApp groups and Facebook messages have been used in ways that do not reflect our values.

Please remember our Communication Policy:

If you have any concerns or questions, speak directly to the school team rather than using social media channels.

Together, we can ensure that communication remains constructive and respectful.



## Community & Events

Join Us!

Coffee Morning

We warmly invite you to attend a coffee morning to meet me as Chair of Governors, along with other governors and members of the Senior Leadership Team.

Join us on the 13th January 2026 at 8:45 onwards in our community room.

This is a great opportunity to ask questions and share ideas.



Groundforce Day

We're planning another community day in March—watch out for dates!

## Season's Greetings

A Festive Message

From all of us on the governing board:

Governors have loved attending Christmas events and seeing the joy across the school.

Wishing you a wonderful Christmas and a happy, healthy 2026!

