



Hillcroft Bulletin

SSB Newsletter

Newsletter from the Hillcroft Strategic Board

Issue 3 – Spring 2019



Happy Easter to all the Hillcroft Staff, Parents, Children and Friends



School governance:

In our last newsletter we said goodbye to Louise Marriage and told you a bit about our activities over the year. We have since appointed a new Parent Governor and we have a new GLF Education Partner attending our meetings & supporting the School. You can read more below.

Hillcroft School Strategic Board Members 2018 - 2019

Community Governors

Janet Worth – Chair of Governors & Safeguarding Governor

Dave Shadrach – Vice Chair & Health + Safety Governor

Adam Jewell – Finance Governor

Henry Hubbard – Parent Governor

School SLT Governors:

Kellie Brazier – Head Teacher & Sarah Conway – School Business Leader

GLF Hillcroft Board Members:

Jo Freeman - GLF Education Partner & Carrie-Anne Woodville - GLF HR Partner

Meet Henry, our new Parent Governor and Hillcroft School Board member:



Henry Hubbard joined us at the start of 2019 and he is looking forward to contributing positively to the team. He has a wealth of experience in building engineering which has included specialising in energy and sustainability within schools and looks forward to using this skill set to support the school's leadership. He welcomes the Eco School programme and is a supporter of sustainable initiatives. Henry has lived in Caterham for 10 years, is married to Katy and a parent of two children at the school. He enjoys various sports and likes to spend time outdoors in the Surrey countryside.

Meet Jo, our GLF Education Partner and Hillcroft School Board Member:



Jo Freeman is our dedicated GLF Education Partner. Before working in school improvement, she was a headteacher and subsequently a consultant headteacher to schools in Hampshire. Jo has extensive educational knowledge and experience, particularly in the Primary phase and is now Schools Performance Director for GLF. Jo meets with the Leadership Team on a regular basis and is able to both support and challenge the school. Examples of this include reviewing standards of learning and teaching across the school, supporting the school to achieve high standards and working with the school leadership to ensure that priorities are identified and actioned successfully.

What the Community Governors have done since September 2018:

Apart from attending six Main Board meetings per academic year, SSB members are involved at the School throughout the year in various ways including attending Inset days, parent evenings and undertaking ongoing discussions with staff and parents. Community Governors have attended the performance review/appraisal of our Headteacher, Miss Brazier, formed the Pay Committee to agree teachers pay and also confirmed the School Development Plan for the current academic year. We agreed that the biggest area for focus would be teaching and learning and ensured that the 2 points raised in the last Ofsted inspection were still areas needing SLT attention.

Our Board meetings agenda include a section on financial matters-this is particularly important in view of the continuous pressure on both school finances and GLF finances in general. Adam, our Finance Governor, meets regularly with the Sarah Conway, Business Leader to reviews the accounts and to help ensure the stability of the school finances.

Janet our Chair ensures that we are all up to date with safeguarding training and that we receive regular reports on safeguarding issues. Janet also meets termly with Miss Summers, the safeguarding lead. Dave, our health and safety Governor, ensures that the Board is kept up to date with H&S matters and meets termly with the School to discuss health and safety issues and to carry out a whole school inspection.

We keep in close contact with the GLF and we have undertaken more GLF training recently. We will continue to communicate our involvement and share further actions within the next newsletter.

Parking outside of the School:

We fully support the School with their efforts to highlight the parking issues and appeal to parents to follow the School's requests not to park or stop on the yellow lines, even if it is just to drop off or pick up. Children are being put at risk and the School's reputation is being damaged by this. Please do not simply ignore the warning signs and road markings or park in the Doctors Surgery car park. This anti social parking is dangerous and we would encourage everyone to pull together to avoid someone getting hurt.

Meet the team:

Should you wish to have an informal discussion with a member of the SSB, some of us will be attending the Summer Fair on the 18th May to support the school. We would be more than happy to have a chat during the fair with Parents or any Staff attending on the day. You can contact Janet Worth to arrange a chat with a member of the team or just pop over to talk to us – we will all be wearing Hillcroft ID so please keep an eye out and say hello.

Talk to us:

You can contact us by email – we all have school email addresses which are on the website.