



# FERN HILL PRIMARY SCHOOL

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[www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk](http://www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk)

Headteacher: Mr.A.Scott

30<sup>th</sup> January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the school governors, I would like to welcome you back to this new term. The start of a new year is a good time to update you on the work of Fern Hill's Governing Body over the past twelve months.

## Curriculum & Assessment

Some of you will be aware that in September Ofsted launched its new inspection framework for schools with an increased focus on the 'quality of education'. This represents a significant change to the way in which schools are inspected and our Governing Body has worked closely with the Senior Leadership Team to reflect on the impact of those changes on how governors carry out their role. As a result, we have now assigned a named governor to each subject area - shifting our focus away from individual year groups and looking more holistically at curriculum and assessment across the school. Governors are now involved in the review of subject area action plans, observing how a subject is taught across the school and reporting back to the Governing Body on pupils' progress and new developments in the subject.

## Nursery

Last year we set up a working party to look at ways of building on the success of our Nursery provision to provide a more flexible offering for our families. We were particularly keen to respond to feedback from families who said they would welcome the option for full-time places and wraparound care. We are very pleased to announce that we are now offering extended hours and the option to access Tree Tops for our Nursery children. We hope that these changes will be of assistance to our families and we continue to look at further ways of providing a Nursery that is suited to our families' needs. Do look out for our new Nursery leaflet, soon to be available on the school website.

## Finance

Financially our focus remains on cost efficiency and maximising income and we are pleased to report that, as a result of the school's robust financial management, we continue to operate a balanced budget. Unfortunately, not all of the school's equipment and resources that benefit the pupils' learning and development can be provided out of the school budget. If you have donated to our Voluntary Fund then you will shortly be receiving a letter from the school about the impact your contributions have made to teaching at Fern Hill. We are very grateful for the continuing support of those who regularly contribute to the fund and, of course, welcome those of you who would still like to make a contribution. You can find out more about the Voluntary Fund and how you can make a donation at:  
[www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk/voluntaryfund](http://www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk/voluntaryfund)

*We are passionate about developing the whole child and instilling an enduring love of learning*

Inspiration

Collaboration

Empathy

Excellence



## Community Partnerships

We believe that our close proximity to The Kingston Academy (TKA) represents an exciting opportunity for our staff and pupils and we are in the process of exploring the advantages that a formal arrangement with the Kingston Educational Trust (the Academy Trust that set up TKA) could bring in terms of teaching and learning and our wider educational offer. We plan to communicate further with our families about this opportunity later in the year, when we will be keen to hear your views.

Finally, please do take a look at the 'Governors' page of the school's website which provides further insight into who we are and what we do: [www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk/governingbody](http://www.fernhill.kingston.sch.uk/governingbody)

If you have any comments on the work of the Governing Body, please contact our Clerk via email at: [flee@fernhill.rbksch.org](mailto:flee@fernhill.rbksch.org)

Yours faithfully,



**Susan Dean**  
Chair of Governors