



Dear Parents and Carers,

Please find below your half-termly update from the FCVS Governing Board.

Parent Survey

The governors issued their 2026 parent survey at the end of last term and would like to thank everyone who took the time to complete it. The responses help us understand what we are doing well, and the positive feedback means a great deal to our staff who work so hard to make FCVS the brilliant schools that they are.

Since the previous survey, we were delighted to see improvement across many areas of parent perception. Most notably, child enjoyment reached 100% at the Infant School and 96% at the Junior School! Giving children a safe and settled environment in which to learn and understand themselves is the foundation of confidence and lifelong engagement, and the whole staff body should be very proud of this brilliant achievement. Another wonderful highlight was the Infant School's 95% recommendation rate, reflecting the success of our Reception and Year 1 continuous provision, which will be running again in the next academic year.

There were, of course, areas where we know we can do better, and we welcome that feedback equally. The most notable themes were communication with parents, clarity of leadership direction, and governor visibility.

Communication and Leadership Direction

As part of a more coordinated approach to communication, you will receive a letter like this from the Governing Board at the end of each half term, followed by an update from school leadership at the beginning of the next. Together, these will keep parents and carers informed of the work being done by leadership to raise standards and outcomes and enrich the experience of our pupils. In the next update from our Senior Leadership Team, you will also receive the new communication policy and uniform policy, in plenty of time for the new term.

The school is also making a conscious effort to explore different communication and marketing strategies, including Saturday parent tours, social media posts, and distributing leaflets and posters locally, to promote our wonderful school within our community.

In fact, you may have spotted some of this literature around the village promoting our first Forest School taster session on 20th June for 2 to 5-year-olds, with the aim of welcoming prospective future pupils and their families to experience what makes our provision so special.

To help make the event a success, the school is looking for volunteers to help tidy up the school grounds on the afternoon of 19th June, ahead of the event. The tasks are light and all abilities are very welcome, so if you can spare some time, or know someone who might be interested in helping, please spread the word and get in touch at fcisoffice@fcvs.co.uk.

Changes to Our Governing Board

We have recently elected a new Chair of Governors, Eve Blackwell. Eve is a Chief Operating Officer by profession and is currently serving as Chair of the Resources and Communications Committee, Early Years Governor and Link Governor with the PTA. These are all vital areas for our schools' success, and having our Chair active across each of them means the Governing Board is well placed to ask the right questions about how resources are being used and to support efforts to ensure our nursery and reception intake numbers are where they need to be for the school to flourish. We are also delighted to be working more closely with the PTA, helping to make the most of the funds they so tirelessly raise for our pupils and school community. One way we hope to show that support is by being present at PTA meetings and events, starting with the BBQ at Sports Day, so please do come and say hello on the day!

We have also welcomed a new governor, Jarred Rose, who will be covering Health and Safety, E-Safety and Safeguarding. These are areas of the utmost importance, and we are delighted to have someone with the right experience to ensure our governance in these areas is robust.

Our existing governors are also stepping up in ways that best play to their strengths. Jag Lal, who brings the invaluable experience of having been a school bursar at Dropmore School, has taken on the role of Finance Governor, and Nic Jarret, who is Head of Operations at a law firm, has taken on HR, a role that sits perfectly in his wheelhouse. We are also very fortunate to be retaining Kate Churchose, an education lawyer by profession, who has been elected as Chair of the Education Committee and also sits on our Communications Committee, serving as both Phonics and SEND Link Governor. The SEND role is one she shares with Lynsey Marshall, ensuring we



remain focused on pupils with additional needs and on understanding them as individuals so we can continue to understand the support available to them. Kate's son moves on to secondary school in the new academic year, so a particular thank you to her for her continued commitment to our schools.

Finally, Aman Koli continues to provide invaluable support as Vice Chair, sitting across the Education, Resources and Communications Committees, and we are grateful to him for his ongoing dedication in his 6th year as a governor.

Visits and Observations

Following your feedback, the Governing Board has made a collective effort to spend more time in school this half term. A particular highlight was visiting our nursery setting and seeing how beautifully the children listen and engage at this stage of the year, and the outstanding quality of teaching they receive in preparation for Reception. Reading with the children in Reception and Year 1 has also been a real pleasure, and we are pleased to see Year 1 is well prepared for their phonics checks in June. We joined our Year 2s on their geography field trip to Burnham Beeches, which was an incredibly well-thought-out trip that made wonderful use of the natural resources right on our doorstep. We also had the privilege of observing Year 6 during SATs and visiting a Year 5 classroom to inspect the progress the children have been making with their handwriting. Year 3 and Year 4 classroom visits are a priority for next half term, so that we will have spent time with every year group.

Away from the classrooms, our Health and Safety Governor has completed a walk of the Junior School site alongside the Site Controller, with a corresponding visit to the Infant School planned for next half term, and we have also met with the Designated Safeguarding Lead to review the Safeguarding Audit and Staff Training Update.

Staff Survey

We have also conducted our staff survey this half term. The findings will help us better understand the experience of our teachers and support staff, and we will be sharing these with staff directly after half term before following up with informal drop-in sessions after the school day, giving everyone the opportunity to speak with us in person. We are fortunate to have Mrs Jordan as a Staff Governor, alongside Mrs Hurst and Miss Wright as co-opted governors, whose insight is invaluable in helping us ask the right questions at our quarterly board meetings.

Contacting the Governing Board

If you are interested in becoming a governor or would simply like to get in touch with the Governing Board for any reason, please do not hesitate to contact us at gb@fcvs.co.uk. We are always very happy to hear from our parent and carer community.

Thank you for your ongoing support and for being an important part of our school community. We would like to wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half term.

With warm regards,

The Governing Board of Farnham Common Village Schools
May 2026