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Dear Parents

I would like the opportunity to introduce myself as the Chair of Governors. Many of you will have seen me daily taking my grandchildren to and from school. They are all now thriving along with many of your children thanks to those two inspirational years spent at Whitegate Nursery School.

In the last two years since joining the Board of Governors I have been involved in the Resources Committee, Buildings, Safeguarding and Health & Safety.

I moved to Padiham forty years ago when leaving the Royal Navy and have spent my career since then in retail and Distribution, in both cases working my way up through the ranks to management level. What, I hear you say, has that to do with running a school. Unfortunately, in this day and age running a school is not just about teaching children, although it should be, as they are our future. Cuts in funding are affecting all areas and schools are no exception, so there has to be an element of running a school as a business, controlling costs, providing resources etc. This is where I hope to use my experience along with the other members of the Board to provide a secure platform to allow our Inspirational Head Teacher and her brilliant staff to do what they do best, to continue to teach our children to be the best they can be.

The Head Teacher and Board have worked tirelessly in the last year to fund a new teaching area. The work is now completed and provides flexibility, space and room for additional places, all necessary components to keep the school moving forward and maintaining its OFSTED rating as outstanding.

There is at present a position available to join the Board of Governors as a Co-opted Governor. The Board in particular is looking to strengthen in areas of business and finance, if you are interested or would like to know more about the role please don't hesitate to get in touch with myself or the Head Teacher via the school.

And finally, I see my role as Chair of Governors as not being just a picture on the wall, but someone who has a regular presence at the school, whether that be in supporting the Head Teacher and staff, reading stories to the children, being involved with fundraising events and most importantly representing the Board of Governors in promoting Whitegate Nursery School as a safe environment where you can send your children to achieve their best.

I look forward to meeting you all at some point in the future.

Alan Perry



Early Years Care



Nursery School