

The Ewyas Herald



Friday 18th October 2024
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Dear Parents and Carers

We have experienced quite a week and the challenges of the weather have obviously had an impact. My thanks to the staff for their dedication and also to all parents who were so helpful when the difficult decision to close early had to be made. It is never a decision that is taken lightly, and judging the weather is always difficult. The paramount concern is always the safety of the children and my staff and I thank you all for your support.

While it is never nice, there is something very positive about how a community can come together at times of trouble and this was evident on Wednesday where we received offers of help and support and I know this was the case for many in the village and beyond.

Looking ahead we are now focusing on our rearranged Harvest Festival which will be on Wednesday 23rd October at 2pm in the Church.

Then on Friday, 25th October the last day of the half term, we are excited about our Halloween Wear What You Like day. Children are welcome to come into school in their Halloween costumes so they do not then have to change before heading to the PTFA disco at the Memorial Hall after school.

Looking further ahead we have our Open Days for prospective parents of children starting school in September 2025. Please help us get the message out there if you know someone with a child about to start school.

Richard Foster
Head teacher



"Happy and hardworking, Healthy head and heart"

OPEN DAY

Tuesday 19th November 2024

Thursday 21st November 2024

Friday 22nd November 2024

9:30am, 10:45am & 1:30pm

Please come and visit our school, take a tour, talk to staff and pupils, ask questions and experience our friendly and supportive learning environment.

Please sign up using our link below (confirming in advance really helps us plan) or drop in at any of the times above, we would love to meet you.

[Click here to sign up to our open day](#)

Open Day November 2024



For further details please contact us:

Ewyas Harold Primary School

Ewyas Harold

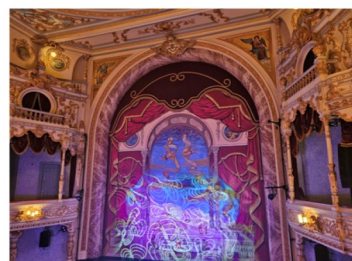
Hereford

HR2 0EY

Phone: 01981 240432

Email: admin@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk

Website: www.ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk



Class Severn's trip to Everyman Theatre in Cheltenham.
Floella Benjamin's award-winning and iconic book
Coming to England comes to life in this joyful stage adaptation with music, storytelling and song.



Contact details for Ewyas Harold Primary

Head Teacher

Mr Richard Foster 01981 240432
admin@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk

Governors:

ajenner@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk

Governor Special

Governors would like to thank everyone who contributed to our recent survey. From the results, it was clear that many don't know who we are, what we do and how our work contributes to the education of Ewyas Harold children.

The fortnightly newsletter has information about us and our full governors meeting minutes are available on request from the school office.

This extra newsletter is designed to give detail about our work and to hopefully encourage someone to fill our parent/carer governor vacancy.

We are 11 members. All governors are unpaid, and we do the job because we are passionate about improving the educational lives of the young people in our school. Our work is varied and interesting. It requires us to have an enquiring mind, time for training and reading, and an ability to work co-operatively, sensitively and sometimes confidentially with others.

We are:

The headteacher

1 x staff governor who is elected by the staff every year

3 x parent governors, chosen by the parents / carers (we have one vacancy)

5 x co-opted governors and

1 x local authority governor

We have also just appointed an extra associate member who will improve the demographic spread of our board and bring in fresh thinking.

Each of us has written a small piece about our roles. In general the government requires us to:

Develop a vision for where we want the school to be in the future, the values that are important to us, and the character that makes Ewyas Harold a special place for our children to thrive

Check and make sure the school provides the best possible educational experience for the children

Check and make sure the money that the government gives us is wisely spent in the best interests of the children.

Ann Jenner

I have been a co-opted governor for over 10 years and although I didn't start off with any experience in education, I have acquired a lot along the way. I have a background in employment advice, and I have kept small company accounts. I am chair of governors; I sit on the Finance, Personnel and IGG committees; I am the curriculum link governor for Maths, Computing and PE and my individual roles are Data Protection and New Governor mentoring. As chair I don't have any special powers – my role is more about listening to everyone's views and pulling together lots of different threads to make a coherent strategy.



Hilary Hall

I am a local authority governor and joined Ewyas Harold in December 2022. I am the director of adult social care for the council and have a background in performance, policy and strategy and commissioning. I am the vice-chair of governors, supporting the chair in developing the strategy for the school. I sit on the Standards and IGG Committees and am the curriculum link governor for Science, Music, Art and Design, and Design and Technology. In addition, I am the governor who checks safeguarding.



Lauri Lloyd

I have been a parent of the school since 2015, my youngest is due to leave in July 2025. As a parent governor for over 5 years, it is nice to be involved with the school from a different insight. It gives us the opportunity to see how strategically the school is run and allows us to provide a parental perspective to the governing body to ensure that the views of parents are considered.



As a Parent governor it is our duty to provide support and challenge to the school, and to hold the headteacher accountable for the educational performance of the school. We have involvement as well as all the other governors to help develop a vision and strategy for the school.

My experience for over 20 years is working at a private nursery with children from birth to 4 years, 11 months with a solid understanding and knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS). I sit on the standards and IGG committees; I am the curriculum link governor for EYFS, MFL, Early Reading and phonics.

Sue Jones



I have been a Governor at Ewyas Harold for eight years. My background is in education. I was a Primary School Headteacher until I retired in 2013. I still work as Senior Adviser for Values-based Education. This involves visiting schools all over the UK and allows me to see a wide range of different practices. I am Chair of the local Scouts Group Trustees and Minutes secretary for Ewyas Harold Memorial Hall. Having lived in the village for forty plus years, I want to contribute to village life and support our school.

I am currently Chair of the Standards Committee, Wellbeing Governor and link for English, PSHE and RSE. I also sit on IGG, Personnel and Headteacher's Performance Management Committees.

Liz Hall



I joined the Governing Body in March 2022 as a co-opted governor. I sit on the Standards, Personnel and Finance committees; I am the curriculum link governor for Geography, History and RE and I monitor the spending of pupil premium funding to make sure it's having an impact on pupils.

Rachel Dyson

I've been a parent governor for about a year and in that short time have learned so much about school governance and the work that goes on behind the scenes of our school.

I have a daughter in year 2 and another who can't wait to join reception next year!

It's my job to be a voice for parents and carers of children at Ewyas Harold, and make sure the values and aims of the school are upheld effectively. I'm also the link governor for the pre-school. My background is in art and design, and I'm passionate about the importance of creativity in all aspects of learning.



Cathy Chesworth

I care hugely about the school and I have been involved for many years as a parent; teacher and teaching assistant. I am now adding to these roles as staff governor. This role is elected by the staff on an annual basis. Within the governing body I am link governor for Community and Health & Safety.



We share these tasks between us through committees, link governors and other individual roles:

Finance committee – checks the accounts every month and authorises big spend items. As with so many schools our budget is tight and around 80% of our expenditure goes on staffing. We know it is important to appoint and retain high quality staff who will give our children the very best education. The next biggest expenditure area is the resources (equipment and software) that make for rich and effective teaching and learning of the curriculum.

Personnel committee – makes sure the school complies with employment law and the staff are happy in the work they do. We check the staff are treated with dignity and respect, that they have adequate training to do their various jobs, that they have opportunity for professional advancement, and that their work contributes to high quality learning.

Standards committee – looks at how much and how well the children are learning. We look at the results from various assessment tools and check that all children make good progress – including those who have SEND, or have other difficulties, and those who are high achievers. We don't see individual children's results; that is for Mr Foster and his teaching staff to analyse.

IGG (Improving Governance Group) – think about long term (up to 5 years) aims and how the school can improve. We're looking at ensuring our next Ofsted grade is once again Good; at whether joining a MAT is a good option for our children; at how a values based approach to education can benefit the academic and emotional experience of our whole school community; at how best we might support working families by offering an extended day in so far as it can be afforded; and consideration of merging the on-site pre-school with the main school. Throughout everything we consider the emotional and physical health and wellbeing of everyone in the school.

We have **link governors** for different areas of the curriculum who learn what teachers plan to teach and to make sure the National Curriculum is being covered. They also look at how lessons are made more interesting with trips, visits etc.

We have a governor who checks safeguarding, one for Special Educational Needs & Disabilities (SEND) children, for Health & Safety, for data protection, for wellbeing; someone to check Pupil Premium and Sports Premium grants are properly used and making a difference. We have governors who have links with PTFA, the community and pre-school.

If anyone feels enthused about joining us, then please contact the chair at ajenner@ewyas-harold.hereford.sch.uk or Janet in the school office.

New Governors

We are delighted to welcome two very new members to our board. Nikki Honeyman lives in the village and is a SEND specialist. Eve Jones is a recently qualified teacher at a secondary school in Hereford. She is an ex-pupil here and the daughter of one of our TAs. Her father and grandmother have been governors so she has a real family connection with us. They will be introducing themselves properly in later editions of the school newsletter.

Janet Mailes

Janet is too modest to write this herself but without her we could not do our job. As well as being the school administrator, finance officer and so much more, she also is our clerk. This involves ensuring we organise and conduct ourselves properly; compiling our agendas; writing our meeting minutes; keeping all the school policies in order; organising our documents so we can find what we want..... and more than there is room for in this piece. We are grateful for her hard work!

Richard Foster

Richard is a governor by virtue of being our head teacher. He is our link with the school and we work closely with him. He sits on and feeds information and ideas into our Personnel, Finance and Standards committees. We are constantly both excited and awed by his ideas and plans for our school.

NEURODEVELOPMENTAL

DYSLEXIA

PINS - PROJECT FOR INCLUSION IN SCHOOLS

JOIN US FOR A

CHAT ABOUT INCLUSION

Date & Time Below

Monday 25th November - 4pm in the School

Neurodiversity celebrates cognitive differences like dyslexia, ADHD, and autism as strengths, showcasing unique talents and perspectives. Join us in discussing your Child's Journey in a warm and friendly group and let's make their time at school inclusive and not exclusive

AUTISM

DYSCALCULIA

ADHD

DIVERSE INTELLECT

DEVELOPMENTAL COORDINATION DISORDER

OCTOBER HALF TERM DANCE WORKSHOP

Nicola's School of Dance

Specialists in Ballroom, Latin, Freestyle & Cheer Dance



Join us for an all-day of dance workshop this half term, a full day of movement, rhythm and fun for all primary age pupils.

Date & Time: 30th October, 9.30-3pm (drop off from 8.45am)

Venue: Aylestone School Gym (HR1 1HY)

Price £30pp

Age: reception age plus

Full balance required on booking; bookings are non-refundable.

To book on please follow the QR code



www.nicolasschoolofdance.co.uk

WANTED:

Adults to listen to reading!

If you are interested or know someone else who might be, please contact the school for more information.



Well Done to the 56 pupils who currently have 100% attendance for the year. Reception pupils stay at the top of the attendance chart and are the only class to remain above the school target of 97%! Overall we are down again to 96.07%.



Percentage Attendance for each Class for the year to date.

Class Dulas	✓	97.44 %	↑
Class Wye		96.86 %	↑
Class Severn		95.43 %	↓
Class Monnow		94.83 %	↓
Class Dore		94.61 %	↑
Total Percentage		96.07 %	↓

School Diary

OCT			
	21st	9:15-11:15	Solihull Approach Workshop - parents welcome
	23rd	2:00	Harvest Festival in church
	25th		Wear your Halloween costume to school and decorate a pumpkin competition
	25th	3:30-5:00	Halloween Disco at EH Memorial Hall £3 per child, £2 per sibling
	25th	3:20	End of half term
	28th		One week half term holiday (sorry for incorrect dates in last newsletter)
NOV	4th	8:40	Back to school
	5th		Visit from Pudsey
	8th-13th	3:30-4:30	Book Fair at school
	11th & 13th		Parents Evening
	29th		PTFA Non Uniform Day - bring donations towards Christmas Hampers
DEC	5th	PM	Whole school trip to Panto at Courtyard Theatre (will be late back to school) roughly 4:30ish
	11th		Dulas Class Nativity time to be confirmed
	13th	3:30 & 4:30	KS1 and then KS2 Discos at school
	17th		Christmas Jumper Day & Christmas Dinner and party games
	19th	PM	Carol Service in church, followed by Hamper Raffle Draw in school
	22nd	PM	Village carols round the Christmas tree