

Dear friend of Edward Wilson Primary School,

As a member of the local community, I, like you, take a great interest in Edward Wilson Primary school. Our school was built in 1915 and named after Dr. Edward Wilson, a member of Captain Scott's last Antarctic expedition and a local resident. The school was built to serve the local community and the growing numbers of children living in the area. As we enter our centenary year, the role of Edward Wilson Primary School in the local community has continued to grow as the school continues to make links with local businesses and residents.

Since its humble beginnings, the school has grown significantly and now has 416 pupils on roll and 80 members of staff. Many of our children speak English as an additional language and overall 35 languages are spoken. This all adds to the rich canvas of the school and enables a broad learning environment.

If you are an existing parent, thank you for selecting Edward Wilson Primary. If you are a prospective parent, you are going through the important and daunting decision of where to school your child. My advice to you is to visit schools, get a feeling for the culture and ask to see their recent results.

It is with great satisfaction that our April 2013 OFSTED inspection reported that Edward Wilson Primary is a 'Good' school. Over the last two years, our Senior Leadership Team, alongside Governors and staff members, have put plans in place which are designed to move the school to Outstanding. Over the last three years we have invested significantly in the structure of the school - £275,000 has been spent replacing the toilet facilities, refurbishing the kitchen and installing a soft-play environment on our roof playground. The school has also investment in increasing the number of full-time teachers. This was a key step on our journey to providing outstanding teaching in an outstanding learning environment. Despite our investment, we manage the finances prudently and ensure we are prepared for a rainy day.

In my role as Chair of the Governing Body I lead a team of 12 governors (2 elected parents, a representative of the local authority, our Head Teacher, two members of staff and 6 'co-opted' volunteers), with wide-ranging responsibilities. Specifically we:

- set the strategic direction of the school and challenge performance
- ensure the curriculum is being delivered;
- ensure care and safety of the children and staff;
- appoint key members of staff;
- manage the school's budget; and
- ensure the building is appropriately maintained.

We have two committees responsible for delivering this work: Resources (which includes, finance, premises and staffing) and Curriculum, Children & Community. We typically hold five meetings of the full Governing Body each year and parents and staff are welcome to attend. Please contact the school in advance if you wish to attend.

Our teachers, parents and governors work together to further learning. If you are already part of our school community, thank you for your contribution; you enrich the lives of children in

wonderful ways. If you are thinking about sending your child to us, I look forward to watching them learn and grow in this fantastic environment.

Best wishes,

Simon Mair

Chair of Governors

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