

Most parents are aware that I am the Chair of Governors of Wetwang School and have been in post since the start of the school year in Autumn 2009. I have 14 years of Police experience and as you know heavily involved in assisting and guiding the children through their time at school. There is no longer need for an annual report to parents but I thought it would be useful to write to you all from time to time.

As a parent of children at the school it's fair to say that I am confident with how the school is run and managed. I have regular contact with the Head teacher, Mrs O'Connor, and other staff members and despite having to wade through all the policies etc, I am happy that I am kept up to date with all important issues occurring in the school from what's being taught to the children to education issues at national and county level. As a police officer I attend a number of schools in the East Riding and feel I am in a good position to compare the school to other schools in terms of how good we are, and communicate to staff ideas from other schools. We are fortunate that Wetwang is a pleasant, well-resourced school with an exceptional teacher to student ratio and we should be grateful that we have this head start for our children.

I am very practically minded and I will always believe that the most important thing is providing the children with the opportunity and guidance for the best possible education whilst at school. All of us want the best for our children and it's important that we as parents do our bit by encouraging discipline and good behaviour at home. If the children are properly prepared for school with a positive attitude it means teachers' time can be spent on teaching and learning. I have worked with staff for the last couple of years to deal with behaviour issues and improving attitudes to learning has proved successful, whereupon we currently have very good behaviour in the school. It is very important to maintain this for the above reasons and give children the right attitude at an early age, which will have long term benefits. If you experience problems with behaviour at home please seek our help and support as it will have an impact on children's learning if they are unsettled or anxious.

It is important that we have trust in the staff to do their job. They work much harder behind the scenes than is realised. I am always kept up to date with matters and I have full confidence in action and procedures. If you have any issues with your child at school, staff are always happy to help as the children's welfare and development is their first concern. If you would prefer to, you can always talk to me, and I will support you on the best way to resolve any problems.

It is very important to support the school and respond positively to requests from staff to assist the school in delivering an education to the children. It is also important that we continue to support FOWS and school events such as the Summer Fair. Parents are encouraged to provide written feedback on anything important about the school, good or bad. This helps the school to evaluate its practice and make continual improvements.

Finally, I would like to mention the youth club which I jointly run with some very helpful adult residents in the village. This provides activities for the young people in our community. The youth club and school have close links and the youth club supports the ethos of the school in terms of good behaviour, educational and social activities and promoting positive Christian values.

John Day