



## Priory Infant School

### Meet our Governors

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#### **Tracey Jones – Headteacher**



As Headteacher of the school I work in partnership with the Governors to continually evaluate what we do and find out what we could improve in school for the children. I appreciate the ideas and discussion we have at meetings when it comes to decision making, it's good to hear everyone's views before making key decisions. Out of school, most of my time is taken up running our smallholding where my husband and I grow fruit and veg and raise hens and pigs. I am the proud owner of 3 pairs of wellies!

I studied art alongside my teaching degree and really enjoy visiting galleries and exhibitions although I never seem to get enough time to actually "do" any artwork myself these days, unless it's in school with the children. I love walking my dogs on the beach and in the woods near my house – it's good 'thinking' time – and I often get back with some good ideas to bring into school.

#### **Andrew Mothersele – Chair of Governors**



My eldest child started at Priory in 2012 and it is fascinating to see the changes in the education system in the 30ish years since I was in her place. In 2015, my son also started in Year R. I joined the governing body in 2012 and became the chair in 2014.

I love spending time with my children and helping them learn and develop their skills. After completing university, I spent my first 10 years working as an IT Manager. I have since moved into a role of internal communications at Openreach where I spend most of my day travelling, meeting people and talking and promoting the good work they have done. Outside of work, I like to read, walk along the beach, renovate my house and of course spend time with the children. I became a governor to help ensure that Priory is the best school it can

be and that any decisions are made for the benefit of the school and the pupils.

Andrew is a parent Governor whose term of office ends in October 2018.



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#### **Martin Forryan – Vice Chair**



I grew up in Broadstairs, attending local schools but moved away when I started work. I have had a variety of jobs over the years; including working in a special needs school.

I am married, with 2 daughters and 4 grandchildren, and have lived back in Thanet for a number of years. My hobbies include gardening (well, trying to grow plants!) and motor racing.

I wanted to give something back to the local community and becoming a Governor of a local school is an ideal opportunity. On my first visit to Priory Infants I was so impressed with the school I thought that it would be great to get involved. I am happy to be able to help to ensure the school achieves its goals and aspirations. My responsibilities as a Governor include Health & Safety, plus I monitor the impact Pupil Premium has on learning. I am also finding about Assessing without Levels and how this is being driven within the school.

Martin is a co-opted Governor whose term of office ends in October 2018.

#### **Alison Issott – Vice Chair**



I have lived in Thanet for 25 years and worked as a pharmacist for the NHS at both QEQM hospital and for the Thanet Clinical Commissioning Group, working with our local GPs. As a senior manager in the NHS, I have worked in strategic planning and with budgets and, now I have retired, I want to give back to the community and use my skills to support the staff and governors at Priory. Also, as a former teacher and trainer, I know how important that support is in helping a good school to run smoothly and reach its aspirations.

I have three children and five grandchildren, and I will also be trying to understand again first-hand what it is like to be learning from the pupil's perspective and see the excitement that our children have when they experience things for the first time.

Alison is a co-opted Governor whose term of office ends in June 2018.



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#### **Una Bellingham**



Being a community governor at Priory is a great experience. My daughter attended the school and had a fantastic start on the education highway from the wonderful team of teachers and others in the school. I have a lot of experience of education as I worked for many years as a specialist teacher in Thanet and other areas of Kent. It is wonderful to be part of the governing body using my skills and knowledge to contribute to the work they do. I have also learned many new things about how schools run and am very proud to be able to support the school in continuing the superb work of educating the next generation of young people in our town.

Una is a co-opted Governor whose term of office ends in October 2018.

#### **Marie Regan**



I am the staff governor and Family Liaison Officer (FLO) at Priory Infant School. Although I am relatively new to the school, I feel I have many qualities to offer the school and the governing body. I offer a professional, confidential but approachable and friendly service to parents. I have two children myself and understand how important it is when approaching a school that you are listened to and feel respected.

I listen to the views of both my colleagues and parents and am open minded and positive.

Marie is a staff Governor whose term of office ends in November 2020.



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#### **Tracey McMahon**



I have loved Priory Infant School from the first moment my eldest daughter set foot. She flourished in her education here and has now moved on to Christchurch junior school. My youngest daughter is still attending Priory in Year 1 and is doing just as well. I used to work for a leading retailer as an assistant section manager for 20 years until I had my 2 girls. As I decided not to return to work, I have taken on more roles to keep myself busy. I am a licenced chaperone for a performing arts school that my children attend so I have great experience working with younger children and I get to travel to different theatres in the UK with them. I also volunteer to work in their dancewear shop. I am a keen fundraiser for the same dance school making cakes, selling gifts, and generally thinking up more fund raising ideas. I have recently returned to ballet and tap classes myself at the same school to keep myself fit and have a little bit of 'me time'. I love spending time with my girls though and love finding free/cheap educational activities to do with them especially in the school holidays. I like watching dramas and going to the theatre as well.

I am looking forward to my new busy role as attendance governor. I believe every child should have the best possible start in their school career and what better school to start at than Priory Infants.

Tracey is a co-opted governor whose term of office ends in October 2021.



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#### **Karl Garrod**



I was born in Margate and apart from spending a year in Australia, I have always lived in Thanet. I have over 10 years of experience in the construction industry, working in a variety of positions. During this time, I have been involved in several local construction projects including The Marlowe Theatre and St Georges School.

In my spare time, I like to spend time with my fiancée, renovating our house, watching films and socialising with friends and family. I also enjoy travel and experiencing different cultures, especially the food.

I wanted to do something more in my spare time and after searching for volunteering roles online I became interested in becoming a school governor. Upon my first visit to Priory, I was taken aback by how passionate everyone was and how much hard work they put in for the school. I hope to provide the same level of passion and commitment I have witnessed.

Karl is a co-opted governor whose term of office ends in February 2021.



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#### **Tim Fox**

I have two children at Priory Infants and we have lived in Ramsgate since 2002.

I wanted to be a governor to try and help support the school, particularly as primary schools are experiencing challenging times. I believe that parent governors have a special role, and should always try to assess issues and decisions from the point of view of parents, carers and families.

After my degree I followed a career in commercial management and marketing and I am currently running a community interest company that provides services to General Practice and NHS patients in Central London. I am also a Trustee for the National Gamete Donation Trust (NGDT).

Tim is a parent governor whose term of office ends in April 2021.