

# Parent News

## We need Parent Governors

What is a school governor?

Please think about this, you will be given support and its really important that we have parents as part of our governing body . Gov-

Having a Parent Governor as part of the Governing body allows us to understand how parents feel and what they want from the school.

- ◆ School governors are volunteers who help to **run** the school.
- ◆ Most schools work with a group of school governors - together they're called the '**governing body**'. They're involved in decisions about all aspects of managing the school – such as running buildings and budgets, supporting staff and setting standards of school discipline. Governors also help to make big decisions about the school's long-term goals. They work with the head to set the vision and strategic direction of the school.

### Who can be a school governor?

**Anyone over 18** can be a school governor – you don't **have** to be a parent with a child at the school. However, every governing body includes **parent governors**, and it can be a rewarding way to be involved in your child's school.

- ◆ The most important qualities for being a governor are **enthusiasm, commitment** and an **interest in education**. You don't need teaching experience, but it's useful to bring skills from other areas of your life.

### What does the role involve?

- ◆ At most schools you'll need to attend a governors' meeting each half term. You'll also be expected to join one or two **sub-committees** – these cover different areas like the curriculum, finance or buildings. You'll need to be able to work well in a team, as you'll be making **joint decisions** on policy.
- ◆ Demands on your time depend partly on how the school is doing generally. As a governor you'll probably need to work 4 - 6 hours a month .

### How do I become a school governor?

- ◆ **If you're interested in becoming a governor, talk to our chair of governors Mrs Pat Furness or Head Teacher Mr D Vickery 01462 892189**

### Diary Dates

Friday 13th Feb. Break up Half Term

Monday 23rd Feb. Return

Friday 27th Feb. school closed  
(Annual statement review day)

Thursday 2nd April **Break up 1pm.**

Monday 4th May school closed (Bank Holiday)

Friday 22nd May **Break up** Half Term

Monday 1st June Return

Wednesday 8th July **Parents Evening**

Friday 17th July **Presentation Day**

Friday 17th July Break up  
1pm.



After talking to Parents , we are aware that many parents feel isolated and are not sure where to go to get support or help.

Many parents feel that they are the only parents with the problems they have . Well you are not alone, many of our parents feel the same.

Having a child in special education can be hard and difficult to talk about with friends.

Many of our parents have little or no support from their families ,because of their child's behaviour.

With the help of a couple of mums , and our family worker we would like to start a parent support group.

We will be sending out more information in the next week, but if your interested in helping or if you have any ideas on what to include please contact me Thank you Janet 07890665157

# Brandles Spring Newsletter 2015

You can keep up to date with all our news, meetings, trips, school closures etc.

on our website

[www.brandles.herts.sch.uk](http://www.brandles.herts.sch.uk)

Or follow us on twitter

@ brandles\_school



Art - the Art Department has been busy making leather bound sketch or note books, fimo models which included roses and guitars, clay and paper masks, perfecting the art of making superb models with Airfix kits and paper modelling. The year ten GCSE group have investigated different kinds of media as well as honing their drawing skills. The year eleven GCSE group are progressing well with their portfolios and are producing final pieces before they start their examination work. Some really good water colour work has emerged as well as original ideas on how to present answers to the Art examination theme. A good half term's work so far.



This term the JLT team have been dreaming of summer! Pupils in Years 9 and 10 have worked very hard on designing and building garden planters, which will be positioned in the school's main entrance. This will showcase the pupil's work and brighten up the school's image to visitors. All Pupils worked from plans from which they measured and cut the timber decking, fixing the timbers together using battery hand drills. As the final stage is near completion, all pupils in the Thursdays JLT class will paint the planters with an environmentally friendly water based stain. We hope that all visitors to Brandles will take delight in being greeted by these fabulous planters.



Country of the Month - In order to help promote diversity and understanding of different cultures within Brandles, we will be launching 'Country of the Month' in collaboration with our International School Program.

During this month, through a range of activities our pupils will have the opportunity to learn and experience different cultures and languages. All the student's work will be displayed in the school hall.

PE-This half term the students have been focusing primarily on basketball. KS4 have been playing full court basketball at the local leisure centre and have made great progress with some extremely close matches! KS3 have also had the opportunity to experience gymnastics as well as basketball, with all students showing great enthusiasm and some excellent technique when performing sequences.

This half term has been quite fixture heavy, with two football fixtures and a basketball fixture. Brandles recently competed in the second round of their senior football tournament at The Valley, winning five games, drawing one and losing one. This was a fantastic result and stands us as a school in great stead going into the final round of matches. Earlier in the term Brandles also played The Centre School in Cottenham, losing 2-1 in what was a very close game. As always the team conducted themselves appropriately on the pitch, and were a credit to the school. We hope to organise a return fixture in the near future. The fixtures culminate with a basketball fixture which has yet to be played, but with the excellent progress made in PE lessons this term, we are hoping for a victory to finish the term in style.