

Ashbeach Governor Newsletter

October 2020



Dear Parents and Staff

As the new Chair of Governors, I would like to introduce the governors via this newsletter as in this Covid time it is unlikely we will get to meet in person.

Cathryn Webb Vice Chair

After completing a PhD in biochemistry, I worked as a research scientist on Breast cancer. Having spent a few years living overseas (California and Belgium) I then became a primary school teacher. I had many happy years as the Additional Needs Leader here at The Ashbeach School before retiring. Since my retirement I've spent a bit more time on the golf course and also volunteer as a counsellor for a national crisis textline organisation called SHOUT. The last two years my husband and I have spent the winters in the French Alps as skiing is a passion of ours.

Simon Fort

I am a former resident of Ramsey St. Mary's but now live in Ramsey. I have had close ties with Ashbeach Primary School for many years - all three of my children attended Ashbeach and my wife worked at Ashbeach when she qualified as a teacher earlier this year. For my 'day job', I am Head of Mobile for an independent telecommunications company providing wholesale services to businesses throughout the UK. In my spare time I like to keep fit and healthy, running and cycling when I can and at weekends, I particularly enjoy watching my girls play football for two local clubs.

Jackie Bennett

I am currently employed as a Nursery Nurse at Ashbeach Primary school I also attend the University of Bedfordshire as I am currently studying for my degree, to hopefully in 3 years' time be qualified as a teacher. I live local to the school with my family and our family pet dog Fergie. My favourite place to be is spending time with my family sitting on the beach listening to the waves and watching the sunset.

Joan Morters Chair

I am a retired primary headteacher, who moved here for the brilliant sunsets to build an eco-house for my retirement. I volunteer at the local Nature Reserve and have created a wildlife garden around my house, along with areas to grow fruit and vegetables. A geology degree many years ago raised my interest in the Earth; I linked that with my interest in wildlife so spend my holidays in places to experience both from the Arctic to the Amazon.

Lynn Hunter

I am a parent of a child currently in year 3 at Ashbeach school. Our family moved from South East London 2 years ago to live in a quiet village and to escape the London life. I currently work as a Student Support Officer at Abbey College but in the past I have been a swimming instructor, a professional dancer, teaching dance at dance colleges and many dance schools and even at an all boys secondary school too! I enjoy going to the theatre and watching live music too. I love spending time with my family and dog and cat.

Harry Fletcher

I am a Financial Audit Associate working out of the KPMG Cambridge office, covering a wide range of public and private sector clients across East Anglia. Alongside this, I am training to become a chartered accountant at BPP Professional College, London. In my spare time I am a massive football fan, supporting Cambridge United FC and am also a keen golfer and member at Brampton Park Golf Club.

Satnam Virdi

I currently work as an Operations Manager for a chemical plant in Norwich. I have a degree in Mechanical Engineering which supports my job role well. My family and I moved from Canada two years ago to start a new phase in our lives. I have lived in England before therefore I am used to the rain, but I do miss the snow in Canada sometimes. I really enjoy the historical culture and amazing pub lunches that England provides. At the weekends I enjoy watching movies with my children and going for coffee with my wife. In my spare time I like to BBQ, try out new cuisines and watch sports like Basketball and Ice hockey. I am quite well travelled mainly due to work but also with my family which we really enjoy together. My favourite city that I have visited is Chicago as it has great connections to my favourite Basketball player Michael Jordon. My children really enjoyed making a custom-made T-shirt for me at the Michael Jordon store. It was also fun to watch my wife attempt to shoot a few hoops! GO TEAM VIRDI!

Claire Smith

I am the EYFS lead teacher at Ashbeach School. Prior to this I have worked in inner city schools and abroad in both pre-school and Reception settings gaining a wealth of experience. Pedagogy and giving children first hand experiences being a skill and passion of mine. I am extremely passionate about early years and am driven to provide the best outcomes for children. As an enthusiastic and experienced teacher I am eager to make a substantial contribution to my governor role.

You can always contact us via the school email.

We would like to thank you for supporting the school in this challenging time for us all, we are all focussed on the children and providing them with the best possible learning experience in this most unusual time.

I am a glass half full person, so stay well and try and have some fun because:

Smiling not only offers a mood boost but helps our bodies release cortisol and endorphins that provide numerous health benefits, including:

- Reduced **blood pressure**.
- Increased endurance.
- Reduced **pain**.
- Reduced **stress**.
- Strengthened **immune system**.



Best wishes
Joan Morters
Chair of Governors