

Meet your governors!

Q&A from Frankie, our 24/25 Pupil Governor

Frankie says: My favourite thing about this year was definitely my buddies, because I treat them like family and they treat me like their big brother!

Something else I've really enjoyed was SAT's because it was a challenge and it made me work harder.

One of my biggest achievements this year was writing letters to the Prime Minister and also our local MP Alison Bennett, and receiving replies from both of them! Another thing I enjoyed was becoming Pupil Governor because I think it's a role where I have a big responsibility. It allows me to help the wider community.

1.) What is your favourite sport?

Neil: Football (I am a Manchester United fan and hoping things improve soon!)

Mrs Wood: What a fun question! I think that you might be able to guess my answer to this, (because of our chats) I have a passion for rugby.

Will: Rugby and NFL but sadly playing days are now over so focus on just watching on tv and keeping fit in the gym instead

Gemma: I enjoy watching the tennis but the sport I most enjoy and do regularly is running.

Clem: stand up paddle boarding, except for when my son tries to knock me in!

2.) Do you have another job as well as being a school governor?

Mrs Wood: As you know, I work here at the school. I'm now also involved with looking after my three grandchildren - both tough jobs!

Neil: I am Director of Post Trade Strategy for an IT company that provide financial technology.

Gemma: Yes. I am a solicitor/lawyer.

Clem: I worked in banking in London for ten years and am a chartered accountant.

Nowadays, I keep busy with lots of volunteering, including assisting with reading and bushcraft at school and helping to run the village café. As Chair of Governors, it's a big job making sure that we are up to date with all of our work!

3.) Have your own children ever gone to Bolney school?

Will: I have two daughters. My eldest is just finishing year 1 and my youngest starts in Reception in September

Mrs Glew: yes, all three of my children have.

Mrs Wood: I have 2 children, both of whom were pupils at Bolney, they have very fond memories of their time here.

Gemma: Yes. I have a son at Bolney and I hope my little girl will go there when she is older.

Clem: yes, but they have both gone on to secondary school at Warden Park and love it there.

4.) What made you decide to become a governor?

Mrs Glew: I was working at Bolney School as a teaching assistant when the Head Teacher asked me if I would be willing to be a staff Governor, I decided that I would like to have a role in helping the school to be the very best school it could be, Guided by God of course!

Mrs Wood: Originally, I was asked by Bolney church to be one of their representatives on the board. It all flowed from there.

Will: to be able to have a greater influence on a place that will be central to our family over a significant period of time, as well as use knowledge from my work life to better serve the community.

Neil: I want to actively contribute to the village community and providing time to support to the wonderful school is a pleasure.

Gemma: I live in the village and liked the idea of doing something for the community.

Mrs James: I like to find out more about the school, the behind the scenes to teaching parts and I like to be able to have a say in how things are going from a teacher point of view.

5.) Were you a governor at a different school before this one?

None of us have – except Rev Daniel who has been a governor in his last parish in Yorkshire. He is also a governor at Holy Trinity in Cuckfield, and so is Toby. It's helpful to hear about how other governors run their meetings!

We all found it a bit of a challenge at first, but luckily we get training from the council and we have had support of other governors at our school and other schools.

Mrs James nearly became a parent governor at her children's school.

Perhaps some of us will go on to be governors at other schools like Warden Park. We learn lots of useful skills.

6.) What is your favourite thing about Bolney school?

Will: I like how everyone knows everybody else and is the personification of what a village school should be.

Neil: There's such a lovely friendly feeling each time I walk through the doors. It's always nice to see so many smiling faces.

Mrs Wood: A very easy answer to this one, our lovely children!

Gemma: I love how friendly all of the children are with one another across the year groups and I think the buddy system helps with this. It is so nice to see how welcoming and inclusive the children are and I love going to the park when lots of year groups are out mixing together and join in one another's games.

Mrs James: I love the team we work with, we all want the best for the children and strive to do that, like a family.

Mrs Glew: I think the thing I like most about Bolney school is the feeling of being part of one big family, who all care about each other and look out for each other.

Clem: Bolney bushcraft with Mrs Booty is awesome! I also enjoy reading with the children and celebrating their hard work and progress with them.