

Governor News

Summer Term 2025

Issue 3



A message from the Chair of Governors

As this school year draws to a close, on behalf of the Governing Body, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you a very happy Summer holiday. Thank you for taking the time to read our Governor News!

Roles of the Governing Body

Here at Hordle, we feel it is important for families to understand more about the Governing Body that supports the school. In the spotlight this term, we wish to introduce Judith Bean, our Vice Chair.

What is a Vice-Chair of Governors and what do they do?

Hello there, my name's Judith! I am the Vice Chair here at Hordle and have been on the Governing Body for the last 7 years, joining in September 2017. I have been in the Vice Chair role for a number of years now and bring with me experience of working in legal. I use these skills to support the school.

What is a Vice Chair?

A Vice-Chair does a number of things including supporting the Chair in ensuring the governing board functions effectively, standing in for the Chair of Governors if they cannot attend a meeting or event, helping the Chair with some of their duties to ease the workload or which might better suit the experience of the Vice-Chair and mentoring new governors. Naturally this means that the Vice-Chair will develop a close working relationship with the Chair!

I thoroughly enjoy my role at Hordle and feel really privileged to work as part of the Governing Body team, supporting the school in ensuring that our school offers the very best learning adventures and opportunities for the children in our community. I hope you enjoy this term's edition of Governor News!



Superhero Learning Values in Action



REFLECTIONS FROM A GOVERNOR VISIT

As many of you will know, the staff at Hordle work incredibly hard to equip children with the values they need to become lifelong learners. At the heart of this are six superhero learning values: Resilience, Risk-Taker, Responsibility, Motivation, Sense of Humour, and Teamship. During a recent visit to the school, I had the pleasure of speaking with pupils about these values. I wanted to understand just what the children understand by these values and how they apply them within and beyond school. Their responses were nothing short of inspiring.

CAPTAIN TEAMSHIP

It was immediately clear from the interviews that children have a deep and genuine understanding of Teamship. They spoke confidently about the importance of collaboration, inclusion, and lifting one another up.

“Working together means including everyone in your games, cheering others up and working together in everything like sports day.”

“Teamship means that if I am stuck on something, someone will always help me and I would always help someone else if they were stuck, too.”

Children expressed a strong sense of belonging and connectedness—both to their class teams and to Team Hordle as a whole.



“I really feel part of the team –
Team Hordle and my class
Team too.”

They also recognised how teamwork enhances their learning and helps them value different perspectives.

“When we work together, we can get the answer quicker and then move on to harder things and learn even more.”

“In class, we sometimes work in groups and this helps me because other people have different explanations.”

“It really helps when we talk to others and learn from each other too.”

CAPTAIN SENSE OF HUMOUR

When the children and staff talk about Sense of Humour at Hordle, they don't just mean telling jokes. It's about staying calm, taking things in our stride, and learning from mistakes. From the children's comments, it was clear they've embraced this message.

“I think that when Captain Sense of Humour visits us she really helps me to take things a bit less seriously. Now if I get something wrong, I can smile and try to learn from my mistake.”

“If I get something wrong, I don't cry. I just think ‘Oh well’ and give it another try.”

“In English or Maths when I get perhaps some green highlighter for a spelling, I don't get upset about it. I just give the word another try and learn from my mistake.”



“CAPTAIN SENSE OF HUMOUR HELPS ME TO STAY CALM AND
IF I GET SOMETHING WRONG, SHE HELPS ME REALISE
THERE IS ABSOLUTELY NOTHING TO GET STRESSED ABOUT”

The children spoke thoughtfully about how this superhero helps them manage challenges positively—a powerful skill needed for living life in all its fullness.

CAPTAIN RISK-TAKER

Taking healthy, considered risks is a key part of growth, and Hordle pupils are encouraged to embrace new experiences. The children shared confident examples of taking risks both in and out of school.

"Being a risktaker - it happened today! I took a risk and auditioned for a main part in the show and I got one! A detective!"

"In PE, on the obstacle course, I had to try to go quicker. Instead of crawling across the netting, I took a risk and ran. I ended up with my best score yet!"

"When I was at the pump track for the first time riding my bike, I was scared over the first bump but I kept going round and round and now my friend and I are doing jumps and even flicking out the back wheel!"

"You may not feel up to the challenge but sometimes you just have to put yourself out there. There was this one time I had to take part in a dance routine in front of others and I wasn't sure if I wanted to but I did it and it was okay in the end!"

"You may not feel up to the challenge but sometimes you just have to put yourself out there."

CAPTAIN RESILIENCE

Captain Resilience is all about perseverance and keeping going, even when things feel tough. The children clearly understand how resilience supports their learning.

"When I was an Eco Warrior, there was a competition to create a poem. I did everything I could to enter the competition and with encouragement from teachers, I kept going. My poem was a runner up! I love writing poems now!"

"In maths, if I find a question hard, I just stick at it. I have tools to help me work through."

"It means to always believe in yourself and if I get something wrong, I have to try and take it well and just keep going."

"Resilience means that you should keep going and if you get stuck, there are always things you can use to help yourself."

IT MEANS
TO KEEP
TRYING AND
NOT GIVE
UP!"





CAPTAIN MOTIVATION

When asked about Captain Motivation, children explained how they use this superhero to help them get started even when something feels daunting.

"In Maths, I needed motivation to start algebra. I like Maths and Science but I wasn't sure about letters being put into it!"

"On Sports Day, I was really nervous but my Sports Captain encouraged me to take part."

"Sometimes going into school can feel tricky but Captain Motivation helps me and there are things in school like soft start to get the day in the right direction."

"IN ENGLISH I CAN SOMETIMES STRUGGLE TO GET STARTED BUT I JUST TRY TO WRITE A REALLY GOOD BEGINNING AND THEN I AM ABLE TO KEEP GOING! I LOVE ENGLISH!"

CAPTAIN RESPONSIBILITY

Captain Responsibility reminds pupils to take charge of their actions and emotions, and to consider how those affect others. Earlier in the year, the children had participated in a worship with a message from Captain Responsibility. It was evident the children recalled the message from this worship vividly.

"This worship taught me not to be unkind to others and to not take away other people's happiness by emptying their bucket!"

"THE WORSHIP MADE ME THINK ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF PUTTING OTHER PEOPLE FIRST AND IT MADE ME REALISE MY ACTIONS COULD HAVE AN EFFECT ON OTHERS."



"This assembly made me think about the fact that helping others can actually make me feel better about myself too. Helping others helps me fill up my own bucket till it's brimming with kindness."

If you would like to explore the idea of "bucket filling" further, the book that inspired this worship is: Have You Filled a Bucket Today? by Carol McCloud

WHY IS IT GREAT TO HAVE SUPERHEROES AT HORDLE?

The children had no doubt about the positive impact their superheroes have on their school experience. Some of our favourite feedback quotes include:

"The heroes make you think before you act. They are displayed all around the school and this actually helps me to stop and think before I do something."

"I think heroes make our school a better place."

"Having heroes at Hordle makes learning fun!"

"If you stick at something, the Captains will be proud of you. Sometimes you get rewards from the Captains but I also feel proud of myself too."

HOW WILL THESE SUPERHEROES HELP YOU WHEN YOU'RE OLDER?

It was heartening to hear how children are already applying their values to future aspirations.

"When you have a job, you just have to stick at it - like Captain Resilience. It's a bit like building a house - it just needs to get done."

"I think Captain Teamship is probably going to help me the most because in life you have to learn to work alongside others even if you don't particularly get along with them."

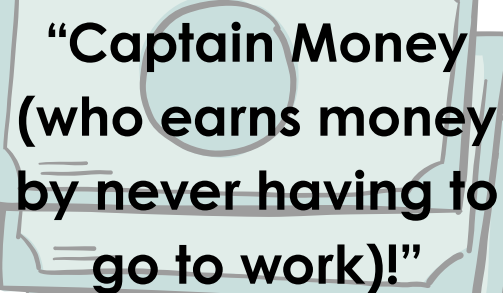
"I'm going to need Captain Risk-taker because I want to be a fighter pilot when I grow up."

"I think Captain Responsibility because without that - being responsible - you might not be trusted to go to college or even to work."

AND FINALLY... IF GROWN-UPS HAD SUPERHEROES, WHO WOULD THEY BE?



"Captain Feelgood who just goes around making all the grown ups happy"



"Captain Money (who earns money by never having to go to work)!"

It was a joy and a privilege to speak with Hordle pupils and hear firsthand just how embedded these learning values are.

The children not only understand them but live them—and that's a testament to the whole school community.

A huge well done to the staff, who are helping children live life in all its fullness—both now and for the future.



ABM Catering

Finally, the Governing Body were delighted to receive an update from Mrs Rook regarding the school's recent efforts to secure a new catering provider.

As you may be aware, Education Catering formally advised all schools earlier this year that their catering contracts would be coming to an end. This prompted the need to begin the process of finding a suitable replacement. Mrs Rook has led this project with great dedication, expertly managing the tendering process over the past year. As part of this, she and Miss Trim recently attended a special event in Calmore, where schools from across Hampshire gathered to meet the four shortlisted catering companies. Each provider delivered a detailed presentation outlining their values and approach, with opportunities to meet their head chefs and sample a wide range of dishes from their menus.

While all the contenders had much to offer, the primary schools offering "Grow" by ABM Catering stood out for their strong commitment to sourcing local produce and their clear ambition to reduce the use of ultra-processed foods. Their philosophy around food education—particularly their tailored approach to introducing new flavours and textures for Nursery and Key Stage One pupils—also aligned closely with our school's values. The company's fresh, imaginative menu and strategies to encourage children to try new foods made a lasting impression.

The transition to ABM is now underway, and the new service is set to launch in September. We look forward to sharing the children's experiences and feedback in a future edition of the Governing Body newsletter.

