



Windermere Primary School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Windermere Primary School has a very strong sense of community; it is a relatively small school and consequently we have very good relationships and strong bonds. In particular, I know that I am extremely fortunate to have a governing body, who are particularly supportive and active in all areas of the school.

Sadly, I have to inform you that last week one of our governors, John Plumstead (also husband to our very own Mrs Plumstead) died unexpectedly. This has been a huge shock to the adults in our school community and our governing body meetings will undoubtedly be somewhat less lively without him.

Some of you will have read the tributes to him in the local paper or online. John joined us as a local authority governor in 2013. Whilst his own working commitments sometimes limited his daytime attendance at school, he always attended school performances, thoroughly enjoying them and full of compliments for the singing, dancing and acting. He regarded them as a treat that was on a par with any evening out in the West End.

John had a delightful sense of humour and an endless stock of stories to amuse and delight. However, he also had a razor sharp intellect, which he combined with an extraordinary depth of compassion. John could read, absorb and comment on governing body reports and policies at an incredible speed, but his focus was always on the children and how to give them the very best opportunities and education. It was my privilege on one occasion to join him at his day job – Crown Court judge. What struck me particularly was his compassion and humanity towards all that he encountered. He will be much missed by everyone.

We have been fortunate indeed to have benefited from John's services towards the school and the governing body in particular. I am sure you will join me and the rest of the staff and governors in sending our condolences to his family at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Raftery
Headteacher

