

Thorndown Governors

Frank Newton Local Authority Governor	
	<p>Born in Yorkshire but have lived in St Ives since 1966 and my 3 daughters all went to the Thorndown Schools.</p> <p>Retired Head of Revenue Services within Local Government. Following retirement, I continued for a further 10 years as Senior Consultant (L.G Benefits) to the Local Government Association. This role involved negotiations with DWP and HM Treasury on behalf of all the Local Authority's in England and Wales. In addition, I also chaired the Examination Board of The Institute of Rating, Revenues and Valuation for approximately 10 years. I have been a Governor at the Thorndown School for over 50 years.</p>
Mark Farr Parent Governor	
	<p>I am originally from Essex, starting my working life as an electronic engineer apprentice in 1992, eventually transitioning into IT in a variety of roles ranging from IT support at the BBC to my current role at a global financial services organisation where I have been for the past 18 years, and have responsibility for the employee desktop technology solutions across the globe.</p> <p>I moved to St Ives with my wife (who grew up here) in 2011, we are parents to four children. Currently two are at Thorndown with one more joining pre-school in September.</p> <p>As a parent governor I sit on the committee for Finance & Premises and EYFS & PHSE at Thorndown.</p>
Andrew Thomas Parent Governor	
	<p>I have lived in St Ives for most of my life and attended Thorndown as a child. I have two boys who both attend the school. I have worked for Tesco for 30 years and have held a number of positions. I am currently the store manager of St Neots extra.</p> <p>I have a number of skills to bring to the role of parent governor including personnel and business leadership.</p> <p>In my role I sit on the personnel group and I am the shadow governor for health and safety and safe guarding</p>
Craig Laurence Parent Governor	
	<p>I've lived in St Ives for the past 15 years and have two young children at Thorndown. I'm currently the Facilities Management Supervisor for Cambridge University Libraries.</p> <p>I have a varied role involving H&S, project management and people management. I'm excited to bring my skills to Thorndown and help the school flourish for years to come</p>

Nick Drury
Parent Governor



I began my working life 33 years ago at the age of 17, undertaking an Engineering Apprenticeship with Rolls Royce. After completing my apprenticeship, I moved into the IT industry where I progressed to be the Global Head of End User Computing for Western Union Business Solutions until recently. I now work with a very close friend, managing and delivering large scale data projects on a global basis.

I have two young children, one attending Thorndown school currently, the other at a SEN school in the area. I sit on both the Learning and Development and Finance committees whilst acting as a Parent Governor for Thorndown Primary school. As well as recently joining the school Governing body at the end of 2021, I am about to embark on a new and exciting experience as an American Football coach for a local team.

Katie Humphrey
Parent Governor



My family have lived in St Ives since I was 9, and apart from time spent away at university and 4 years in Birmingham, I have stayed around the local area. My children have both attended Thorndown, my daughter is still enjoying her time there, and we have always been so impressed with both the education and the support they have received.

I have been involved in FOTS for the last 7 years, as a committee member, chair and secretary. I chose to become involved in the governing board to continue my support of the school and give something back to the local community.

Heather Wood
Parent Governor



I am a social housing professional and spent the first 10 years of my career delivering and managing a range of housing services, including specialist supported living accommodation for people with disabilities as well as general housing. I have spent the last 14 years working for a local housing authority and am responsible for the teams which allocate social housing and oversee statutory housing advice and homeless prevention services. I am also responsible for reviewing the authority's domestic abuse services.

My housing background has required me to develop skills and knowledge in the following areas: safeguarding, health and safety, staff management and finance. In addition, I have experience in service planning, governance, performance management and business continuity planning. I believe all of this knowledge is transferable and allows me to bring relevant insight from outside the education service to my role as governor.

On a personal level it is important to me to be able to contribute to my local community. I am really pleased to have been elected as a Parent Governor and to support the school which has had such a fundamental and positive impact on my children's early education.

Rob Jagger
Co-Opted Governor



Originally from Leeds, I've lived in St Ives since 1998, and run my own business as an IT Consultant. I've served as a governor at Thorndown since 2004.

I have three children, all of whom have now gone through the other side of the St Ivo High School, in St Ives, but all three of them spent many exciting years at Thorndown, and I feel privileged to be able to contribute to such a happy and successful establishment.

Peter Smith
Co-Opted Governor



My name is Peter Smith. I am chair of the personnel and salary committee and on the learning and development committee. I have lived in St Ives for 40 years and have been a governor at Thorndown School for nine years. I have grandchildren in year one and reception and two older grandchildren are previous pupils. I am a retired headteacher of a school for pupils with special needs.

Jane Ainscow
Co-Opted Governor



I have been teaching for over 25 years in Northamptonshire and Cambridgeshire and I currently teach at a local junior school. I felt my experience in the education sector would be useful when a vacancy for a parent governor came up at what was Thorndown Infant School. I was a member of the joint committee which led the amalgamation of the Infant and Junior schools to become Thorndown Primary.

When my last term of office as a parent governor finished, I was invited to join the governing body as a co-opted governor. I am the Chair of the Learning and Development Committee and Safeguarding Governor.

Emily Broadhurst
Co-Opted (Staff) Governor



I am beginning my 11th year of teaching this year and have worked at Thorndown for 5 of those years. I have a passion for helping children to reach their full potential and love the opportunities Thorndown provides in getting to know children on an academic and personal level.

I am currently one of the Assistant Headteachers and have responsibility for Looked After Children across the school, as well as running our ITE programme with the University of Bedfordshire.

Jill Foster
Co-Opted Governor



I am originally from Scotland but have lived in St Ives for over 20 years. I moved here to work at the now closed CEH Monks Wood, as an Analytical Chemist. I left there to train to be a teacher and have worked in education ever since, first as a primary school teacher, then as an Environmental Education Advisor and I am currently the coordinator for two clusters of schools in other parts of Cambridgeshire.

I joined the Governing Body when my son was a year 5 pupil at the school; when my term as a parent governor ended I was asked to stay on as a co-opted governor.

Lisa Johnson
Co-Opted (Staff) Governor



I have lived in St.Ives all my life. Attending Thorndown as a child. I have 3 kids, 2 have already finished their journey through Thorndown primary school and 1 that has just started her journey in pre school. I have worked in Pre school for 12 years from when we were previously pavilion and when the school took us on 5 years ago. I have worked as a general helper a 1:1 and now a key worker.

Jade Strachan
Staff Governor



I am beginning my second year of teaching, yet my third year at Thorndown. I attained a First-Class degree in Physical Education from the University of Brighton. I achieved the highest marked dissertation which was based on the comparison of primary school teachers and sports coaches providing high quality physical education for children aged 4-11.

After completing my degree at the University of Brighton, I began my initial teacher training with the University of Bedford and Thorndown Primary school. I was inspired by the passion and dedication at Thorndown, and I knew that it was a great school. To this day, I continue to be inspired by those around me. I have a desire to complete a Masters in Education in the nearby future, to continue my enthusiasm for life-long learning.

I strive to provide children with the opportunities they require to succeed in their early academic life, and I ensure that their wellbeing is at the heart of my teaching. It is my passion to see children flourish and enjoy their academic endeavours. I am looking forward to seeing what the future holds at Thorndown.