

27 June 2017

Dear Parent

Parent Governor Election

I am writing to let you know the names of the parents who are standing as candidates in the Parent Governor election. There are 2 vacancies. Each parent has **two votes** (one for each vacancy).

Candidates are as follows: -

**Charlie Condou
Flora Cornish
Paul Hemings
Rifca Le Dieu
Hannah Ogilvie
Wanda Wyporska**

Short details provided by each parent will be displayed near the ballot box and are also on the attached ballot sheet. **Please note that there are candidate details on both sides of the ballot sheet.**

If you require another ballot sheet for a second parent please come to the office to ask. We can then note that one vote has already been cast from your family.

To vote in person please complete the ballot paper and put it in the ballot box in the school office.

If you intend to vote by post, the ballot form should be sent to school and arrive by no later than the close of the ballot at **4pm on Friday 7th July**. The envelope should be addressed to 'The Returning Officer', c/o. Eleanor Palmer Primary School, Lupton Street, London. NW5 2JA.

To ensure a secret ballot, postal voters are asked to seal their ballot paper in an unmarked envelope, which will then be sealed in an outer envelope with the name and address of the voter on the back.

The counting of votes will take place at the school on **Friday 7th July at 4.30pm**. Candidates are invited to be present when the votes are counted.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact the school office for any clarification. The names of the candidates standing in the election are given overleaf, followed by their statement.

Yours faithfully,
Tania Voaden
Returning Officer

Please return your ballot paper by 4pm on Friday 7th July

ELEANOR PALMER PARENT GOVERNOR ELECTION BALLOT PAPER

CANDIDATES ARE LISTED ON BOTH SIDES OF THIS BALLOT PAPER




Vote for 2 candidates. Do this by putting an 'X' in the box next to the 2 names of the candidates that you are voting for i.e.:

CANDIDATE	X
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CHARLIE CONDOU	
	<p>As a parent of two children at EP (Georgia in Y3 and Hal in Reception), I have had the opportunity to discover what a special environment the school provides. I am an actor and writer, and speak regularly on the subject of parenting and gender equality. I have a strong and active interest in education, fostered through my involvement (as a patron) of several children's charities that commit to a vision where all young people can live, learn, grow and play safely, regardless of background, race or gender. I would relish the opportunity to be a parent governor, and to support Kate and the growth of the school.</p>
FLORA CORNISH	
	<p>My family has been part of Eleanor Palmer for nearly 6 years, with my daughter in Year 4 and son in Year 1. With children in both the juniors and infants, I feel well connected to children, parents and teachers across the different year groups. In my day job I'm an Associate Professor at the London School of Economics, involved in teaching and running our department. I'm pretty practical and quite enjoy the boring stuff (you know, spread sheets, reports, meetings). I'm collaborative and ambitious in the more exciting stuff of making things happen. I love teaching and students say I am good at it.</p> <p>I am a fan of the Eleanor Palmer ethos and believe the school is very well run and gets things right. As governor, I would support the school to keep focusing on its core educational ethos, whatever changing policies and budgets come our way. I believe that being happy and feeling supported are the foundation for all the important academic and social development that happens at school. I know our children all have different strengths, interests and ways of learning, and I want everyone to have opportunities to excel in their different ways. I want children to have fun, and to learn to think of others. This is my view on education. As a parent governor, I know my job would be to listen to yours and represent it!</p>
PAUL HEMINGS	
	<p>By September 2017 I will have 3 of my 4 children at EP in Years 4, 2 and Nursery. I believe I can bring a good set of skills and experience to the Governing Body. I received an Economics degree from Queen's University (Canada) and several years later moved to London to obtain an MBA from London Business School. I spent 13 years as an investment banker, mainly in London at Credit Suisse, advising some of Europe's largest companies on mergers & acquisitions and capital raising.</p> <p>In 2013 I made a career change to build a restaurant business with my wife Cara. Since then we have raised money from private investors, built 4 restaurants in London and are completely hands-on with every aspect of the business.</p> <p>My life in finance has given me strong skills in financial analysis, strategy and critical thinking. In our business, I manage budgets and scarce resources, balancing the needs of a wide range of stakeholders from investors to employees. I am experienced with the complexities of building works, councils that approve them and contractors that execute them. In a personal capacity, I have undertaken a successful appeal against Camden's Schools Admissions Authority, a challenging experience which left me with intimate knowledge of the system's strengths and weaknesses.</p> <p>With our oldest child being educated outside EP, I have developed a deep sense of appreciation for the values and success of this school, and what they do for our children. I think the collective voice of parents and carers must be constructive and balanced to be most impactful. I'm a very engaged parent, and a strong and vocal advocate for the cause and vision of this school and our children. I think these attributes complement a good set of skills to contribute meaningfully to the Governing Body.</p>

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CANDIDATE	X
<p>RIFCA LE DIEU</p> 	<p>Watching the pictures go up on the website of Y2 at the Mill, practically in real time, I am again struck how amazing our school is. The enthusiasm and commitment of our teachers and administrative staff in giving our children what will probably be one of the most lasting memories of their early lives, is incredible. I would like to be part of the team fostering the school's ambitious, supportive and inclusive ethos over the next 4 years. I have been a parent at Eleanor Palmer for 4 years. I have twin boys, Alex and Hugo, in Y2 and Emily in Nursery. This means I have a good understanding of the way in which the school operates. As two of my children have additional needs, I also have first-hand experience of negotiating the difficulties of EHCPs, my plans, annual reviews and interactions with other services. I am also a doctor – a consultant Haemato-Oncologist specialising in lymphoma at Barts Health NHS Trust as well as a clinical senior lecturer at Queen Mary University of London with responsibility for teaching undergraduate medical students and biomedical scientists as well as supervising postgraduate scientists in MSc and PhD projects. These roles have allowed me to develop considerable organisational and communication skills which would be valuable as a parent-governor. This may sound like a full-on job but in fact I do it in 3 days a week, a work pattern that I plan to continue with. Thus I have the time to commit to the responsibilities of the role. A colleague once told me that I achieved more in 3 days than he did in 5. I hope to bring this capacity for efficient, effective working to the governors' team.</p>
<p>HANNAH OGILVIE</p> 	<p>I am a local girl that went to Camden state schools until University. My high quality and well-rounded education provided the tools I needed to become a happy adult and pursue a successful career as a solicitor (initially in the 'city' specialising in international litigation, more recently 'in-house' at General Electric (GE) – a role less glamorous but more compatible with part-time work).</p> <p>I remain friends with the people I grew up with, some of whom went to EP! We came from all walks of life (my parents spoke English as a second language), but what we all had in common was equality of opportunity, derived from our school/community network. This has motivated me to stand for Governor; I want to give back, help EP maintain its high standards and engage with the community. I passionately support EP's vision of inclusivity and aiming high – but this means there is always room for improvement and voices to be heard. I believe I have the skills to help and offer the school constructive support and challenge.</p> <p>I have returned to many local schools in a volunteering capacity over the years with community engagement projects that inspire, educate and offer careers guidance. Other volunteering roles include giving housing advice and I feel as comfortable advising vulnerable people as I do presenting to company boards. Although my daughter is currently in nursery, I have good insight into what's next for Year 6, and will be concerned for the interests of every year group in the school.</p> <p>Finally, working at GE gives an insight into the future working world (we are on the cusp of a digital industrial revolution!) and I am constantly thinking about what our children should be learning now (3D printing!). I would love to share this insight as part of the role.</p>
<p>WANDA WYPORSKA</p> 	<p>As a class rep for Year 2, I've really enjoyed being involved with school life and would like to take this further by standing for parent governor. Since my son joined, I've loved being involved with the school. I run the year 1 and 2 early morning football and support EP events whenever I can.</p> <p>As head of equalities at an education trade union, I led on education and equalities policy and worked with government and ministers on safeguarding, PSHE, anti-bullying and poverty. It gave me a thorough knowledge of employment law and many aspects of the education system which I believe will be useful as we face uncertainty, cuts to schools and attacks on public education.</p> <p>Now, as Executive Director of The Equality Trust, I have the privilege of commentating in the media and have spoken about many education issues, on radio and TV. In my role leading the Trust, I set the future strategic direction, as well as supporting and recruiting staff and I can bring that experience to EP. As director, I have flexibility in my job and can easily give more time to school.</p> <p>My driving passion is education and to see every child reach their full potential, regardless of their background. I think EP does this very well and I have been able to promote this far and wide in my own work. I also believe that the Governing Body ought to reflect the wider school population in all its diversity and to continue to encourage all parental voices to be heard. I would like to bring my skills, experience and passion for equality and education to Eleanor Palmer and help to ensure that the school, pupils, staff and parents, continue to thrive as an inclusive and inspirational community.</p>