

Governors' Report to Parents and Carers February 2015

This report summarises the recent work of the governing body.

Performance and Standards Committee

The Performance and Standards committee were joined in their term three meeting by a Wiltshire Improvement Adviser. His input was helpful and provided a different perspective when scrutinising the progress data for the year so far. We were able to identify the areas in school where progress has been swift and those where accelerated progress is still needed. The Wiltshire Improvement Adviser was able to confirm that the Senior Leadership Team has prioritised its resources well and is targeting its support in the right places.

The committee also looked at the vital role of the Pastoral Support Manager. Her input into supporting families wanting to help their children overcome barriers to learning is crucial in ensuring that all children reach high standards of attainment. In addition we discussed a report on the provision for children with special educational needs and how that provision improves their learning.

Resources Committee

The Resources committee considered and approved the latest income and expenditure return prepared by the School's Business Manager and satisfied itself that resources continue to be directed towards achieving the best outcomes for pupils.

We were also provided with evidence of actions being taken in response to the latest health and safety audit undertaken by Wiltshire Council as well as actions put in place following the school's latest risk assessment. This committee continues to keep premises related policies under review.

Full Governing Body

The full governing body recently approved the Special Educational Needs Information Report prepared by the School's Inclusion Manager. You will find this report under the information for parents section on the school website, where you will also find a link to the Department for Education's Guide for Parents on Special Educational Needs and Disability.

We considered reports from the Geography, History, Music and Computing subject leaders, ensuring that the governing body is aware of the strengths of each subject across the school as well as priorities for further development. In addition, we were able to scrutinise the impact of the improvement actions taken during term two. Evidence of the impact of each term's action plans is presented to us by the Head

Teacher and Deputy Head Teacher. You will find the improvement plans for term 3 under the School Development section on the school website.

Individual governors often make monitoring visits to the school on behalf of the governing body, preparing feedback reports for consideration at governors' meetings. At this meeting we received feedback reports from our Special Educational Needs link governor and our English link governor as well as reports from other governors who had visited to learn about the teaching of music and the use of the web based interactive spelling programme. Two governors with relevant experience contributed to a risk assessment of the school's premises.

You will see from the above that the majority of our time in governing body meetings is spent considering reports prepared by the school's leaders and asking questions of them. Alongside this, we are always pleased to be able to celebrate good news that is brought to our attention. Recently this has included learning that the school is one of just 10 schools, and the only primary school, to be shortlisted to the final judging stage in a Japan webpage national competition organised by the Japan Foundation. Contest winners will be announced on 2nd March.

Parent Governor Vacancies

Finally, if you think you might be interested in contributing to our work by becoming a parent governor and would like to know more about what this would involve do contact me via the school office. You will also find information about the governing body on the governors' section of the school website.

Margaret Hunt
Chair of Governors