

Governors' Report to Parents and Carers March 2018

I'm pleased to introduce the third report of the academic year 2017-18 on the work of the governing body. Since the last newsletter, written in December, we have held 4 meetings, that is one meeting for each of the main committees. The main points are below.

Full Governing Body

The Full Governing Body met in February when we scrutinised evaluative reports for block 2 and endorsed subsequent action plans for block 3. These reports include aspects of Leadership, Quality of Teaching and Learning and Personal Development, Behaviour and Wellbeing. Our focus is to remain strategic and we have been pleased to note that Amanda Spielman, Chief Inspector of OFSTED has recently emphasised the need for a broad and balanced curriculum. School leaders provided us with high quality reports that demonstrate a commitment to ensure all subjects receive our attention. Mathematics and English will continue to have a high profile. We also considered pupil progress for each year group.

A number of policies were reviewed including anti-radicalisation, anti-bullying and safeguarding. Our safeguarding policy has been updated to include all volunteers, including parents, and any student teachers or students who join the school for work experience.

We noted that, following a couple of governor resignations, we should like to recruit more governors. In the summer we will be asking for nominations for a parent governor so if this is something you might be interested in please let a member of staff know or contact the Chair of Governors directly.

Finance Committee

Margaret Hunt, Chair of Finance Committee writes: At its meeting in January, the finance committee scrutinised the latest budget monitoring reports prepared by the School's Business Manager and was pleased to note that careful and regular budget monitoring will ensure that the school achieves a balanced budget at the end of the year with a small rollover carried forward to the next financial year. Governors were also pleased to note that the School's Business Manager had been able to negotiate a new contract for the IT services provided to the school, ensuring best value for money. The committee sought reassurance from the school's senior leaders that the language translation package authorised at the previous meeting had been added to the website and agreed the way forward on completing the Schools Financial Value Standards self-assessment return, which the Department for Education requires all maintained schools to complete by the end of March each year.

Performance and Standards Committee

The performance and standards committee met at the beginning of March. The subject leader for science attended the meeting and provided a report on the impact of the action plan for block two and intended actions for block three. Assessment of science across the school was also discussed. The committee received information about mathematics and details about mastery in mathematics. Mid-year summaries were received from all foundation subject leaders. Governors are considering ways in which to respond constructively to these, with a view that this will be an on-going process.

Premises Committee

This Committee met in January and considered a range of policies related to premises including risk assessments and health and safety plans. We also heard details of how our priority schedule has been updated.

.....

Thank you to those who took part in the annual survey for parents and carers. It is always a pleasure to read your views and, as in previous years, a summary of responses will be made available. The head teacher will respond to suggestions through his weekly newsletters.

I should like to take this opportunity to wish you and your families all the best for a good Easter break.

Angela Hope, Chair of Governors 26 March 2018