

Governor visit 17<sup>th</sup> January 2020

During my visit, I observed two learning groups for parents/carers to help develop their understanding of how the children work in the classroom. I particularly liked that they had the opportunity to sit next to their child, interact and put information being told to them into immediate practice rather than be just being informed by PowerPoint slides.

The groups were for Year 3 reading and Reception phonics. The demonstrations were engaging, motivating and clear, for example, Mrs Nyamundanda the Reception Teacher demonstrated kinaesthetic teaching methods to help the parents/carers show how you can break words down in to sounds and also demonstrated that learning sounds also doesn't just involve pen and paper you can learn sounds through playing with playdough!

Both courses were extremely well attended and both the hall and library were full to capacity. Those attending, reflected the diverse community the school serves and grandparents were in attendance too. I suggested that SLT should capture these moments on camera as it is good publicity for how the school engages the school community and works to help the students reach their full potential.

On a tour of the classrooms, the children and staff all made me feel welcomed and were fully engaged with their tasks set. I particularly enjoyed looking at the variety of displays and was impressed with the high standard of work. The use of Post-it Notes are encouraged on displays around the school as a way for children to express opinions and answer questions.

In discussion with both Miss Boardman and Mrs Brennan with regards to safeguarding, they feel confident in their practice. The pastoral support team, consisting the SENCO, Parent Support Adviser, Behaviour lead, Learning Mentor and Attendance officer meet regularly (at least once month) to discuss concerns and actions which must be taken to safeguard children and families. Furthermore, SLT meetings always have safeguarding on the agenda. Miss Boardman and Mrs Brennan did reflect that they are having increasing difficulty in obtaining two emergency contact name and addresses especially for single parents who are new to the area. In response to this, SLT have a clear plan of action to remedy this situation.

Overall, the visit was very positive. As both a parent, governor and teacher it was very clear that SLT have high and attainable expectations and clear guidance on what they want to achieve and how this can be fulfilled.

Helen Nichols