



Brockton CE Primary School

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Tuesday 19th March 2019

Dear Parents,

As always it has been a busy term so far and with lots more to happen, I'm sure. Thank you to all the staff and parents for all the time and effort you put into the different activities. It is due to your commitment that our schools are fun, exciting and happy places for our children.

Last week, the Governing Body had their termly meeting to ensure that the school is running effectively and all children are progressing well educationally. In the interest of transparency, the Governing Body keeps you updated on items discussed at our full Governing Body meetings throughout each academic year. The minutes from each meeting are held in the school office, once they have been approved, and if any parent would like to look at these in detail please ask Mr. Tinker.

The following list is a summary of the points discussed during our recent Spring Term meeting:

1. Unfortunately, last month Ben Driscoll resigned from the Governing Body with immediate effect due to work commitments. Ben was a brilliant governing whose knowledge was second to none. This therefore leaves a space for a co-opted governor. In order for us to reassess the needs of the Governing Body, all governors will complete a new skills audit before a decision on how to proceed is made.
2. Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and any action/impact points were discussed:
 - The Local Authority has agreed the funding on the extension at Brockton and building work is due to commence week beginning; 13.3.19.
 - Diane Crow attended a cross school writing moderation meeting at the start of the term. She was impressed with the detail and depth of children's writing and the teacher's coverage. Progress was obvious and action points were sought.
 - I attended a meeting with Catherine Cowper regarding Special Needs in the federation. We have a very low number of special needs (below national average) within the federation and all are progressing well. All children on the list receive some support in class as well as small group activities outside the classroom.
 - A stress audit had been completed by all staff and results concluded that the stress levels were acceptable and within the 'doing well' range. The one area that needs some improvement is communication. This will be reviewed at a later date.

1. Steve Hall reported on the Finance Committee outlining:



- The two schools continue to be under acute financial pressure - as are all schools nationally - but we are absolutely committed to maintaining standards. Discussions continued over how to combat falling numbers on rolls and the financial pressure this brings.

2. Dave Tinker reported on the Curriculum Committee:

- A draft Curriculum statement for the federation was issued to governors. This sets out what it is the Federation wish to attain with their curriculum. It reflects a changing emphasis on a broader learning focus rather than just attainment at English. This was met positively and sets a good high-level set of goals for the curriculum

- A draft Curriculum overview was circulated which is a detailed overview document that further developed the principles from within the Curriculum Statement, setting out (at a high level of detail) each KS1 and KS2 academic year. It will be for the respective teacher to use this when planning the day to day lessons.

- It was noted that the flooring to the playground shelter at Brockton was showing signs of wear. Dave Tinker will review whether this can be upgraded as part of the pre-school work.

1. Dave Tinker gave the Head Teacher's Report to the Governors detailing progress within school and updating Governors on whole school issues:

- The current School Improvement Plan was discussed and progress towards objectives is good.

- Teachers are successfully implementing training in 'The Right Stuff'.

- Key staff attended training in 'Maths Mastery' and beginning to cascade this down to all staff.

- Teacher assessment judgments quality assured and staff prepared for moderation (if chosen) in the summer term.

- Teaching is good with increasing levels of outstanding teaching which is leading to improving outcomes for learners.

- Funding secured for construction of running track at Church Preen (daily mile) - work to commence May 19.

- 'Daily Mile' embedded.

- Governors received safeguarding training to carry role effectively.

- Attendance exceeds national mean at both schools and LA targets (over time).

- There have been no exclusions, incidents of bullying or racist incidents reported.

- Behavior for learning is consistently outstanding in all lessons and can be observed informally throughout both schools.

- High levels of participation in sporting activities - Gold sports award for quality of sports provision and level of engagement and participation in competitive sports. High level of success in competitive sports.

- Safeguarding is effective.

- Children accept responsible roles readily and carry them out effectively.

- Progress rates improving in all subjects over time - informed by tracking data, pupil work scrutinies and lesson observation.

- Good/outstanding practice is readily shared in the best interests of professional development and the pupils.

- Curriculum is vibrant, engages children and enables good learning.

- Good/outstanding reading levels, as a result of good/outstanding teaching enable pupils' full access to the curriculum at their level.

-Phonics teaching is outstanding which leads to good/outstanding attainment and progress in reading development.

-All parents surveyed agreed that children make good progress across the federation.

1. Upsettingly we are losing our clerk to Governors, Mel Morrison at the end of this term, due to work commitments. This is very sad for us as Mel has been part of the team at Brockton and then subsequently The Edge Schools' Federation for 12 years. Her commitment and knowledge of the Federation has been exceptional and so will be sadly missed. This happens to co-incide with the Local Authority disbanding their clerking service. Discussions were had over what we do about this. Dave Tinker is to investigate further and Governors are happy support his decision.
1. The shared headship with Wistanstow continues to work well and Dave Tinker is happy to continue the collaboration for another term. Financially this arrangement brings significant savings to the Federation.
1. Kate Castle is to become Extended Schools coordinator for the Federation not just Brockton.

The above is a brief overview of what was discussed in the full Governing Body meeting. We hope this is of interest to you and gives you an insight into what goes on behind the scenes at The Edge Schools' Federation.

Many thanks,

A Byrne

Amber Byrne
Chair of Governors