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Thursday 24th October 2019

Dear Parents,

Here we are, already part way through another academic term, how time flies. With Harvest festivals already completed and with the most exciting time just around the corner...school will yet again be super busy! I'd like to thank all the staff for their hard work and the children for helping make our schools' the wonderful places they are. I'd also like to thank you, the parents/carers of our children for all the wonderful support and help you give our schools. It makes such a difference to 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. Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and any action/impact points were discussed:
 - Safeguarding link Governor visit to be organized to review both sites.
 - Amber Byrne reported back on the Shropshire Schools Sports Partnership Governors Information Evening. Stating they offer the schools very good value for money; allowing many opportunities for all children to access sport at varying levels, training and support for Teachers, Teaching Assistants and Lunchtime Supervisors. They also run a comprehensive young leaders programme starting at Year 5 all the way through to employment as a Sports Apprentice.
2. Pete Ball reported on the Finance Committee outlining:
 - Both schools accounts are on target for the planned year end position.
 - A working group has been constituted to review catering across both sites in detail and formulate recommendations.
3. Dave Tinker reported on the Curriculum Committee:
 - School Performance 2019 Attainment Date was reviewed.
 - KS1 to KS2 progress analysis for both schools in Reading, Writing and Maths shows solid positive progress
 - KS2 attainment figures are very encouraging.
 - National Standards in KS1 were exceeded by both schools in Reading, Writing and Maths, including at Greater Depth.
 - Good Progress at both schools for Early Years Foundation Stage.





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4. Dave Tinker gave the Head Teacher's Report to the Governors detailing progress within school and updating Governors on whole school issues:
 - Pupils work across the curriculum is of a consistently good standard
 - The quality of education is exceptional
 - From the 2019/2020 academic year onwards, all state funded maintained schools and academies in England will be required to administer an online multiplication table check (MTC) to all year 4 pupils. We have purchased times table resources to support this for both schools.
 - Behavior and attitudes are excellent and pupils make a highly positive contribution to the life of the school and wider community.
 - Extra-Curricular activities are well supported
 - Pupils are engaged in a range of activities that support British Values.
 - A breath of enrichment experiences are planned to support the curriculum.
 - Leaders ensure that teachers receive focused and highly effective professional development.
 - The curriculum provides highly positive experiences and rich opportunities for high quality learning.
 - Safeguarding is effective.
 - Attendance exceeds national mean at both schools and LA targets
 - There have been no exclusions, incidents of bullying or racist incidents reported.

5. Dave Tinker and Amber Byrne both attended a meeting on the new OFSTED 2019 inspection framework and fed back to Governors. The key points were:
 - It puts the curriculum at the heart of the inspection.
 - The quality of education judgements draws together curriculum, teaching, assessment and standards – intent, implementation and impact.

Governors felt this was not an issue for our schools but it will mean some slight changes in how subject leaders are managed and in how The School Improvement Plan, Head Teachers Report and other documents are collated.

6. The shared headship with Wistanstow continues to work well and Dave Tinker is happy to continue the collaboration. Financially this arrangement brings significant advantages to the Federation.

7. Pupil Premium spending plans and PE and Sports Grants were shared and supported by all.

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

