****GOVERNOR NEWS - SPRING TERM 2016

Dear Parents,

This has been a very busy term for both staff and Governors. Since the Ofsted Inspection in December we have met more frequently than usual to evaluate our practices and to ensure that the school is continuing to improve and provide the best education for your children.

The school has received two visits from the School Improvement Partner (external advisor) who is confident that the school is making great strides to achieve on going improvement in the areas identified in the inspection. The Governors are fully involved in the process and monitoring progress rigorously and are very pleased with the progress being made.

This term the three committees have met and below are the areas we have covered.

**Leadership and Management Committee**

* We ensured that the actions raised in the recent Ofsted were being addressed from a financial perspective and that the actions are being implemented for the benefit of the children.
* We reviewed the staffing levels and their continual professional development
* We tasked the Head and Deputy to review the use of pupil premium to optimise the benefits for the children.
* Building and maintenance needs were reviewed and actioned where appropriate.
* Policies and statements of practice were reviewed to ensure school continued to meet financial standards.
* A positive budget was set for the next year.

**Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment Committee**

* The Governors reviewed action plans and were confident the monitoring was now rigorous and carried out by senior leaders in a planned and well informed way.
* Governors were spending time in school and a monitoring programme was now in place for them to meet with staff and discuss specific areas of responsibility. Link governor feedback was given.
* The Early Years had made very positive steps in improving provision and pupil progress was very good.
* We discussed specific assessment materials for maths and literacy which are being purchased.
* Staff training needs were discussed and supported by Governors.

**Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare Committee**

* A new Chair of Committee (Mrs A Sanders) was appointed and also Mr A Taylor volunteered to be the Governor responsible for British Values.
* The committee reviewed the Radicalisation Policy.
* Safeguarding is always an agenda item and this term we reviewed the appointment processes for staff working in school.
* We reviewed the relationship and sex education policy and sharing it with the community.
* Ways of developing the Community Hub were discussed.

Alongside attending meetings, the Governors are regular visitors to school and work hard alongside staff to ensure your children are receiving the best education in a safe, nurturing environment.

We have two vacancies at present on the Governing Body, a parent governor and a community governor position. I am sure you would agree that we need a full team of dedicated Governors to support the school on its journey and I therefore ask that you consider standing for the Parent Governor vacancy (papers already sent home). We need your support.

Thank you for your continuing support for the school.

Best Wishes for a very Happy Easter,

Jenny Davies (Chair of Governors)