

Governor of the Month Report: June/July 2015

Governor name: Meggen Cantillon

June 19th 2015: I met with Mrs Saville to plan the remit of my next visit, observe a mid week assembly and to do a general walk through of the school.

First, it was excellent being able to sit in on a whole class assembly led by one of the teachers. I was hugely impressed with the behaviour of the children which was impeccable. The assembly focused on the values that the children had been learning about and included a reading from John. A discussion with the children took place about how they could "clothes themselves" with different values like compassion, love, kindness etc. It was pitched perfectly for the children and I felt that they understood the message being delivered. It was nice to see one of the teaching staff taking ownership for an assembly as this gives the children a chance to further engage with teachers outside their class. As a Foundation Governor, it was superb to see the continued focus and teaching of Christian values on a day to day basis in the school.

Then, I had an excellent opportunity to speak 1:1 with Mrs. Saville and hear about some of the improvements the school is making which is directly impacting the pupils' learning and results - highlighted by some headline data points which Mrs. Saville was able to share with me to demonstrate the progress the school has made over the last year. During our discussion, we were visited by students from various classes who were there to show Mrs. Saville the excellent work they were doing. This was lovely to experience, to see how excited the children were, proud of their work and to see them be recognised.

Finally, Mrs. Saville and I had a walk-through of the school to observe the general atmosphere and learning taking place. I was happy to see that the children were all actively engaged in their learning and that each class was focused on their tasks, behaving well and enjoying school. It was extremely helpful to come in and see the school in action on a normal day. I was able to see first-hand the many positive aspects our school offers to its pupils. It is clear that Mrs. Saville is very passionate about making the school the best it can be.

June 23rd 2015: Mrs. Saville and I undertook a learning walk, gathered evidence from books and spoke to the teaching staff across all classes to evaluate key areas for development highlighted by the School Improvement Advisor on her 3rd visit into school. I found the learning walk and the opportunity to look at children's books and speak to staff across each class very enlightening. It was excellent to see how engaged the children were in their lessons and also to see the progression of work as we moved through each class. Further it was evident that the children were clear on the tasks they were focused on at the time and understood what their learning objectives were. Clearly with so many changes happening over this year in an effort to move the school forward, it was fantastic to see so many improvements already being implemented across the school. With more time, it is

clear that these changes will further embed, become more consistent across each year group and have significant impact on the learning of each child in the school. I was impressed with what I saw today.

Thank you to Mrs Saville and all the staff for making time to share information and letting me see all the good things happening across our school.

Meggen Cantillon, Foundation Governor