

Governors' Newsletter – Term 1 2018-2019

Welcome to the first Governors' Newsletter for this new academic year.

We hope you have all settled in to the school year. As usual it has been a busy term and the children have all been working very hard to progress in their learning.

Highlights of Term 1 :

Monitoring Visit :

Everyone has worked extremely hard in all subjects. Every child is highly valued and carefully nurtured. This is apparent as soon as you enter the school and see how happy the children are, how keen they are to learn and how proud they are to have their work displayed. We have been immensely impressed by the dedication of the staff, the wonderful sense of helpfulness, fun and desire to learn by the pupils and the support given to every child.

Environment walk :

We carried out an environment walk around the school. The changes which have been made in the last couple of months, have been drastic :

- ⇒ De-cluttering across the whole school
- ⇒ New layout of the Senior Leadership Team office
- ⇒ Re-organising the whole library
- ⇒ The display boards across the school have been re-designed to a much smarter look
- ⇒ The school council has its own display board next to the office.... And much more

School dinners :

During our monitoring visit, we also joined the children for lunch. The children were polite, happy and well behaved. It was interesting to discuss "healthy eating habits" with the children, who already had a good understanding. The Governors felt it was a lovely social atmosphere with the children chatting to each other.

Playground observations :

Governors carried out pupil perceptions looking at behaviour, safety and welfare. 100% of the children asked agreed positively with the statements 'I am happy at my school', 'I feel safe at school' and 'I think other children are friendly in school'. We felt it was a very positive picture from the children.

School council :

When I met with the school council, the group was lively and everyone was involved. The school council shared ideas on various events to raise further funds. The whole atmosphere was very positive and their enthusiasm was catching. A good example of citizenship in action.

The school library :

With the launch of our new library and a growing stock of exciting reading books, many more of the children are becoming really enthusiastic readers, and the support of adult volunteers will make an even greater difference! **Can you spare half an hour of your time each week to hear readers in school?**

Forest school

The reception children look and seem perfectly at home already, thanks in large part to a programme of events and taster days before joining reception. Mrs Stevens, Miss Pullen and Sarah Collier have regularly started taking the children to Forest School, where they experience lots more great outdoor activities whilst learning. All the children love it and can't wait to go back, week after week.

Governors' Coffee morning

Thank you to all the parents who attended our termly Governors' coffee morning. This is a really useful way to help the governors improving our communication with parents. Information about governors and their roles can be found on the school website.

Hever Castle Triathlon

Another successful Triathlon for Miss Buxton, Paul Collier and myself. We all even managed a new PB (Personal Best). A few KS2 children are very keen to take part in the Children Triathlon at Hever next year. It would undoubtedly be an amazing achievement for them too. If you think your child (and even yourself), would be ready for such an exciting challenge, do keep Saturday 28th September 2019 free.

Harvest Festival

The school Harvest service in church was well supported by many families and friends who came along. The children looked very proud of their achievement and loved to share it.

Macmillan coffee morning :

It was truly an amazing event, raising money for such a fantastic cause. We would like to say a huge thank you to everybody who very kindly donated some yummy treats to such a worthy cause. The amount raised was around £1,300

Do start spreading the word :

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• HCPS OPEN AFTERNOON on TUESDAY 20th NOVEMBER 2018, from 1.30pm onwards |
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I finally would like to say, a big thank you to our Senior Leadership Team and our dedicated staff for their hard work this term.

Patricia M Dunmall
(Chair of Governors)