



Curdridge School Governors Newsletter Summer 2017

Since it was the two year anniversary of their last visit we knew that it was time for our next Ofsted inspection at some point in the Summer term, and whilst as a school and set of governors we always felt we were as ready as we could be, when you do finally get the call with just a half days notice of the inspection it is still a nervous time. As the chair of governors I was therefore rightfully proud of the contribution right across the school to receive the report that we have along with a good rating on all of the key measures the school is judged on. If you have not yet read the report in full I would urge you to do so, as it really does reflect well on the school and the positive changes that have been made in so many areas in the past couple of years. From all of the governors we have thanked Mrs Wood and all the senior leaders at the school for the efforts that have been put in since that last Ofsted review in 2015.

Whilst getting such a positive Ofsted review is very welcome to the school, we are not complacent in the knowledge that we are still progressing in some areas, which was recognised in the report. There have been so many changes in education in the past couple of years with a new curriculum and assessment model, it is only to be expected that we are still working on certain aspects to help improve the service the school provides. We also welcomed the feedback you gave on the Parent questionnaire we sent out at the end of May, and thank you for the time and effort spent in responding. Again whilst overwhelmingly positive there were still a couple of areas that were highlighted particularly around feedback of your child's progress that are areas for the school to work on in the new term.

Additional to the Ofsted report, one of the other important measures for the school to the outside world is the KS2 results (SAT tests), that our year 6 pupils sat in May. These came out in early July, and have been sent to the Year 6 parents directly, but I am pleased to say they were an excellent set of results and in all of the areas assessed - Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Maths and we were significantly above the national average for those children that took the test. The Class 4 teachers have put in a fantastic effort and should be commended for the results achieved. Sadly it's now time for our lovely year 6's to fly the Curdridge nest and we wish them all well in their chosen secondary school.

In terms of governor news I was very sad to receive the resignation of the Rev. Amy Webb one of our LEA governors. Amy had not been with us for very long and had just started to make a positive contribution to the group, however, sadly (for us) she has been asked to move parishes and so it is no longer appropriate for her to be a governor for Curdridge. This means we now have a vacancy for a LEA governor i.e. a person from the local community not directly linked to the school. If anyone is aware of someone who might be interested in taking up such a position then please do put them in touch with the school as we would love to hear from them. Additionally we do also have a parent governor whose term of office will end in the autumn, so just a bit of advanced notice that if you are interested in becoming a parent governor then there will be elections early in the new term.

I am sure you will be aware via the media of the many challenges that schools face with their budgets, and we are no different in that respect, with money being tight across the whole education sector. One of the main ways that we are funded is via the annual pupil census that takes place in October – the more pupils

you have the more funding you receive the following year. We do have places available in various classes across the school, and so if you are aware of anyone moving to the area or considering a change of school, then it would be great if you could put them in touch with the school office to come and have a look around Curdrige to see if it is right for them. With such a positive set of results in our KS2, a dynamic teaching staff and an excellent Ofsted report behind us now it would be great to be able to fill those few gaps we have.

Finally as the summer term draws to a close, I would like to thank everyone involved in making our school the happy safe place to learn that it is. We see the teaching staff and the role they play, but within the school as a whole there are many people that make it work, from the efforts the CSA put in to raising those extra funds and giving the children some fun, to the LSA staff and the volunteers that come into school freely to give of their time to help our children's learning. I would also like to thank my fellow governors, not just for putting up with me, but for the extra hours they give of their own time for the benefit of the school.

I hope you all enjoy a well earned summer break, and look forward to seeing you in the autumn.

Regards

Martin Horn

Chair Governors