

Welcome back!

We hope you had an opportunity to enjoy the wonderful weather over Easter and that your children had a chance to prepare for the coming term. Reception, Year 1, Year 2 and Year 6 will have a particularly busy term as teachers conduct assessments for the Statutory Attainment Tests (SAT's).

- In Reception children are assessed against their Early Years Foundation Stage Learning Goals.
- Year 1 undertake phonics assessments
- Year 2 are assessed in Reading, Writing and Maths.

All of these assessments are conducted by teachers and children are often unaware that the tests are happening.

In Year 6 children sit more formal SAT's papers in Reading, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar (SPAG) and Maths and later in the term their writing skills are assessed against the national benchmarks.

We hope you will continue to support your child by bringing them into school in plenty of time and by talking to them about their learning.

Governing Body Reports

We had another busy term addressing the priorities which we had set in our School Development Plan. These are:

1. Developing the curriculum
2. Continuing to develop the quality of our teaching and learning so that the outcomes for our pupils continue to improve
3. Maintaining the improvement in attendance by building on the lessons we learned so that we can move to being in line with the national attendance figures
4. Enhancing the profile of our school within the local community

Governors have continued to visit the school to monitor the Assessment and Monitoring systems. Governors also undertook Safeguarding and Health and Safety visits.

We have been working with 2 other local schools to look at what each other is doing and to identify any areas for development. 2 Senior Leaders from the other local schools visited us and in turn we visited the other schools. At the end of each review a report is provided.

These reviews help to validate our own assessment of how well we are developing as a school.

In addition to the Peer Reviews we also arranged for an external moderator from the Local Authority to look at what more we could do to develop our teaching and learning in Maths.

We continue to receive specialist support from our Multi Academy Trust partner school, Featherstone High School which has enabled us to increase the capacity we have to improve the outcomes for our pupils.

Resources Committee

We have continued to monitor the expenditure against the budget which was set in September 2018 and through the actions agreed in the Autumn we are going to come in on budget for the year.

Our challenge is to ensure that the school is sustainable financially for the next three years and beyond.

We reviewed a number of the school policies. You will find our policies on the school website.

We reviewed the reports from our external auditors and agreed any actions that had been recommended.

Curriculum Committee

We have monitored the attainment and progress that our pupils are achieving in each year group in Reading, Writing and Maths. We have looked carefully at whether there are any particular groups of children who are not achieving at the expected levels and as a result the school team have put in place extra interventions such as booster sessions, speech and language skills, after school clubs and some individual sessions.

We received presentations from the Maths lead and the PE lead before they left to go on maternity leave and we are confident that their action plans will be followed up in their absence and that we will be on track to achieve a gold Sports Mark by the end of the year.

We also reviewed a number of policies relating to teaching and learning.

Changes to membership of the Governing Board

We Currently have a vacancy for a parent governor as one parent was unable to continue. We will be inviting Parents / Carers to put themselves for election. Any Parent / Carer can either put themselves forward for election, or they can nominate another Parent / Carer. Please keep a look out for the communication about this really important role.

Parent governors are elected to join our Governing Board to bring their parental perspective to our decision making not to represent the parent body. Parent Governors do not get involved in the day to day management of the school. Parents should seek to discuss suggestions / concerns with the class teacher or a member of the senior leadership team not Parent Governors.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank Bharat Vaswani for all his work and commitment to the school during his 3 years on the Governing Board as a co-opted Governor. Bharat stepped down as a Governor in January due to increased work travelling commitments.

We are delighted to welcome Wasim Salti to take his place on the Governing Board. Wasim is a self-employed architect with many years of experience. He has two children at Drayton Manor High School and lives in Acton. He is very interested in giving something back to education for the community.

Priorities for the Summer Term

We are continuing to focus on the 4 school development plan priorities and have visits planned to look at Science and the new GDPR (General Data Protection Regulations) .

We will be meeting with our School Improvement Partner to update her on our progress on our action plan and our new governors will be attending the local authority training "Getting to Grips with Governance" which is designed to support New Governors.

Thank you!

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your continuing commitment to our school and the education of your children. We were delighted to hear about the involvement of our parents in school events and activities. We look forward to working together as a community to continue to develop our school.

Shirley Kenworthy-Wright

Chair of Governors

