

Endon Hall Primary & Nursery School

Governor newsletter to parents/carers - December 2023

Learning Walks

Each term, members of the Governing Board come into school to gain an insight into the excellent teaching & learning that takes place on a daily basis. **Here is some of their feedback from the October learning walk:**

- Pupil behaviour was excellent in all observed lessons
- The displays around the school were excellent
- The engagement and happiness of the children observed today was clear to see
- Children were engaged and focused on the tasks set
- All classrooms had a debate topic on the door, which actively promotes a useful skill appropriate to each age group.

Finance & Premises sub-committee

The Finance & Premises committee monitor the school budget, ensuring value for money and sound financial control, maximising spend on children and the resources to deliver the ambitious personal and academic curriculum we have in place. **This term we funded the West End Diwali workshop and the More Than a Face charity visit.**

At their Autumn Term meeting, the Finance & Premises sub-committee reviewed and **approved quotes for new blinds throughout the whole school and new carpet and lino in Year 4.** They also **approved spend for eco-friendly charging stations in every classroom (ready to add group sets of iPads/laptops for every year group).** We already have a class set of Surface Pro's and a class set of laptops, but are keen to introduce greater access to and use of IT across the curriculum. As you know, the PSFA are prioritising funds raised for IT too. Furthermore, the committee **approved a spend of £3,250 for new Phonics (YrR-Yr2) and Scheme reading books (YrR-Yr6), as well as £1000 for Art, DT & Geography resources.** The above projects will be completed late December 2023/early January 2024.

An ongoing project that this committee are overseeing is work to improve the drainage to the school field. We are hoping to secure funding for this soon - watch this space!

The Finance & Premises committee also have a focus on Health & Safety (H&S). The main H&S focus this term has been the **completion of the Healthy & Safety checklist** by staff in each department/phase. Health & Safety is everybody's responsibility and governors have oversight of what's in place to ensure the safety and well-being of the whole community. In our recent parent survey, **100% of parents said their child felt safe and well at school.** We are delighted with this wonderful feedback.

Pupil & Curriculum sub-committee

The Pupil & Curriculum sub-committee monitor how the curriculum is planned, taught, evaluated and resourced, and the impact these have on teaching and learning. They also have oversight of systems and targets for pupils' attainment and progress. Their meetings include some monitoring of pupils' work, so they can see it at first-hand. **This term, they monitored the impact of our focus on handwriting and spelling across the school, which is clearly evident in children's work.** They also looked at the great progress made on the **PE & Sport Action Plan**, which is available on the school website under the 'Find Out'/'Sport Funding' tab.

This term, they focused on **the progress made towards the School Development Plan** and discussed **feedback from an external review we commissioned recently**, including how:

- clearly the schools vision and values are instilled
- delightful, responsive, articulate and well managed the children are
- well staff know the children, personally and academically
- effectively the learning environment supports curriculum delivery
- strong our Phonics delivery is
- how consistent the approaches to whole school initiatives are
- how well pitched/differentiated learning was throughout

The School Performance Summary Report (based on July 2023 attainment and progress) was explored and success shared in terms of our **above national 2023 results in EYFS, KS1 and KS2, both at the Expected standard and the Greater Depth standard.**

The Pupil & Curriculum committee fully supported and welcomed the funding approved by the Finance & Premises committee.

Policies

A range of policies are approved by the Governing Board each term, ensuring practice and protocols are revisited and updated in a timely manner. **This term, the governor sub-committees reviewed and approved the following policies:**

- Assessment & Marking Policy
- Remote Learning and Communication Policy
- Foundation Subject Policy
- Health & Safety Policy
- Fire Safety Policy
- Violence Towards Staff Policy

The Governing Board's commitment to offering a variety of experiences and opportunities for children is very strong; their challenge and support is insightful as we work together to achieve above and beyond for our school community.