



ELLINGHAM PRIMARY SCHOOL

Strong roots for flourishing futures



Governors' Newsletter

SUMMER 2016

Welcome from the Chair of Governors

Dear Ellingham families

This is a sad time for Ellingham Primary School with our excellent Head Teacher, Sarah Creegan, resigning at Christmas.

As Chair of Governors, I would like to reassure you that we, as Governors, are committed to seek and appoint a new Head Teacher who meets our high expectations.

The school (meanwhile!) flourishes and meeting the children on my many visits is an excellent example of quality education today.

Best wishes

Linda Palmer
Chair of Governors

Inside this issue

From the Editor	2
Behaviour Monitoring	2
Governors' Meeting	3
School Council	3
Governors' Awards.....	4

From the Editor

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Ellingham has had a busy year, with many events taking place, and the school is constantly working on different projects, and adventures. This term has been particularly busy. As usual, the recent SAT exams were of great importance, and the governors were pleased to be able to help with

invigilating, as they have done in previous years. I think we might have

been as nervous as the students!

We have paid visits to classes to sit in with interest, on the many lessons in progress. School pupil voice audits are also being carried out by some of the governors, at this time.

Claire Jones

Governor

Attendance And Behaviour

Behaviour Monitoring Visit

Vince Wort, as ever, has been much occupied with his 'Behaviour' visits. Visiting again on Thursday 23 June. Here is his latest report:

I visited the school specifically to discuss how pupils felt bullying was dealt with at the school, if there was an issue at all, and if they knew what to do if they saw bullying behaviour or thought someone was being bullied.

My visit was not prompted as a result of any particular concerns of mine or the Governing Body, merely as a sense check. I am happy to report that I am confident that when such issues arise, as they will do from time to time, that the school and its pupils are equipped to deal with them.

I spoke to children in Reception, Year 2, Year 4 and Year 6 and observed playtime. The overwhelming feeling was that any bullying incidents, of which they were hard pushed to think of any, were dealt with quickly and effectively by the school staff. Every child I spoke to said they would advise a teacher if they saw/knew of any bullying and one or two of the older children said that they might also try to resolve the situation themselves, but were aware that if they couldn't they would refer to a teacher.

Children from all classes felt that behaviour was generally good at the school. The few incidents related to me of bad behaviour, although no doubt requiring dealing with, were minor issues easily handled by staff in the classroom.

Governor Meeting

In our recent meeting, we were pleased to receive a report on the work being done on Healthy Eating , which has produced communication at school from parents and children.

Satisfactory reports have been received from our Curriculum and Family committees.

Governor Meeting

School Council

The Council has had a busy year and come up with many good ideas. They decided, in one of the meetings, to raise some money for two charities: refugee children from Syria, and a local one, 'Read To Dogs'. The fund raising was to be a 'school-wide' Spelling Bee, and it was enthusiastically tackled throughout the school and culminated in a Teachers' version. This took place assembly on 24 June and Mrs Jones provided a selection of spellings to try the nervous tension of some brave staff members. Xylophone? Piccalilli? (We didn't get onto the last few, in case we had a super-genius and it was a shame we didn't get to 'oesophagus!!')

The whole venture has been a great success and was much enjoyed.

School Council



Governor Awards

We held another presentation of the Governor Awards for this year, on Tuesday 14 July. They have become very popular, and I would like to remind you that the awards are not only given for good work, but also , and most importantly, for behaviour, helpfulness and general good attitude. This is why we ask teachers to nominate members of their class. Lots of parents were able to come along and join us at the ceremony.



Governor Awards

Governors also hope to be at the School Picnic later in the week and hope to meet some of you there.

Finally...

The governors wish you a very happy summer holiday and look forward to meeting again in September.

Website: www.ellinghamschool.co.uk
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