



Oldcastle Primary School
Inspire ★ Motivate ★ Educate
Mr Jeremy Malessa-Thompson
Headteacher
South Street
Bridgend
CF31 3ED
Telephone: 01656 815790



Minutes Curriculum 22/9/21 –Apologies – None

Present – Nia Vaughan, Rachel Evans, Neil Harris, Barrie Lewis, Heather Holder, Ceri Littlewood, Sara Peters, Clare Davies.

Apologies – Damian Faulkner, Lyn Walters, Martha Ace, Nerys Sales

2. Register of Interest update

For Information	To be Actioned/Response
Please can all governors complete the form on line and share it with Addell for safe keeping.	TO BE ACTIONED BY ALL GOVERNORS

3. End of Year Data

For Information	To be Actioned
Analysis document was shared, the Headteacher reminded everyone that no data is required however the school has compiled this data for its own use as the general feeling was it would be a good tool when looking at progress and it also aided in identifying children who are potentially under target. There is also no comparison data from Summer 2020 due to covid. The analysis also identified children across the school for moderation purposes. The Headteacher explained Year 3 and Year 5 are low across the board and this could be due to covid or cautious levelling by teachers, there are many inconsistencies and there could be many explanations. SLT are monitoring the data on an ongoing basis. Generally the head is not concerned with the data as its accuracy is not reliable. Each class is working to its own action plan and already we are seeing inconsistencies in the summer levelling, a better indicator will be available later this term and this will offer a true reflection of where the children are. BL asked if it was due to caution on behalf of the teachers in both years, would it be worth revisiting their perceptions. The Head responded that she did not feel it necessary at this time, normally this would happen as a matter of course through moderation and standardisation but of course this had not happened last year, she also stated that she had no real concerns at present as evidence was already forthcoming that the data may not be accurate. NH summarised, stating it had the potential to be a serious flag and when exactly could governors be assured that the data is in fact inaccurate, and that the children are back on track. The head responded that it will be available by January at the latest.	

4. Curriculum Update

For Information	To be Actioned
NV explained there is a big focus on knowledge linking it to the over-arching concept of Human Kindness, Identity, Diversity and Discrimination, this threads through all of our teaching and planning right back to the vision for the curriculum in our school. Year 1 are concentrating on identity, who we are and what our values are. RE explained that year 6 are focusing on Human Rights, in particular the topic of 'class system', looking in particular at where and how they were violated. The feeling in the class is different and the topic has sparked a lot of discussion, currently the focus is on the class system on the Titanic and the effect of it. Both teachers said it was interesting how the over-arching concept had linked in so well across the school, some topics are repeated e.g. Windrush in year 1 and then in year 6, but it will be covered in more depth and the children will need to use their recollection skills. The head explained that this is then expanded into expressive arts e.g. in year 6 expressive arts is looking at Peter Pan linking it with the class system between the lost boys and the children. Planning is also very different and the staff are using staff meetings to evaluate and change planning, gaining a better understanding all the time. Enrichment is a regular Friday event where the whole school take part in a activity, everything from sport (netball, rugby, badminton, Tae Kwondo and Karate) through to musical instruments and life skills like gardening and cooking. The children are really enjoying doing something different along with the opportunity to try things they may not get the chance to do at home. CD asked how governors would know if the school is doing the right thing? The Head responded that they wouldn't know yet, but the school is designing the curriculum for the children, reviewing it regularly, evaluating, adapting and then moving forward again, the school is following the guidance and developing what is right for its children, and it is an evolutionary process. Assessment is ongoing and it currently a best fit process, but this will change following consultation. NH asked if there will be any external checks on what the school is doing. The head responded yes, there are checks and this comes from other heads within the cluster, the challenge advisor Simon also has access to all the schools plans, additionally staff have plans to visit other schools. NH asked if the school need any further resourcing. The head advised that this is already completed as Finance agreed much of the resourcing last term.	

BL commented that he has every confidence in Ceri Littlewood and the staff, the way they are enthused and talk about it he has every confidence in their ability.	
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5. **Teacher/ Link Governor update and meeting schedule**

For Information	To be Actioned
A reminder to all governors to book their AOLE meetings if they have links. To date the following are booked - Neil Harris with Nia Vaughan. Heather Holder with Jodie James. The meeting should be held w/c 11th October if possible. A reminder of Key roles and AOLE responsibilities have been emailed out for information. All governors were also invited to visit the school to see what's going on in general and particularly on a Friday enrichment afternoon.	Still to be booked Nerys Sales with Emily Radford. Martha Ace with Charlotte Ellett, a volunteer may be needed for this in the short term. Damian Faulkner with Ceri Littlewood. Neil Harris with Ceri Craven (Welsh) Barrie Lewis with Katie Lincoln. Please let Addell know when the appointments are booked

6. **MER**

For Information	To be Actioned
The Headteacher reminded governors where the MER is on the governor drive. All Drive – MER – links within the MER document to all linked documents. A reminder was given for all governors to familiarise themselves with it, and to visit it regularly. Examples of links within the form were provided for information.	

7. **Pupil Voice**

For Information	To be Actioned
A presentation was provided by the Headteacher and this is available to view in the drive along with the policy. The process is underway for pupils to apply for the junior leadership team and these children will have the opportunity to present their pledges and then they will be supported through an interview process. The successful applicants will oversee the pupil champions, the pupil champions will feed into the junior leaders who in turn will feed in to SLT in a monthly meeting. These children will also take on the role of children's ambassadors for well-being.	

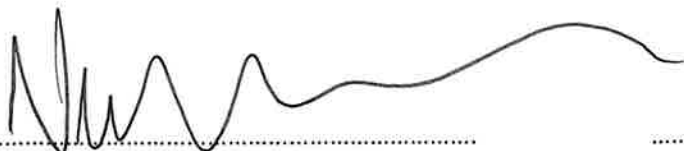
This new system links perfectly with our plans for the positive behaviour policy(PBP). This plan has been carefully considered by both staff and children and we would also like input fromm governors. THE PBP will change and adapt following consultation with all stakeholders, staff like a whole school approach with everyone involved, the idea of the token system came from a staff member and staff have embraced it. All children and staff have been allocated new houses and have taken part in a voting process to name the new houses. (Castle's – Ogmores, Coity, Newcastle and Cardiff) Each class has a token box and there is a large master box at the front of the school, children collect tokens for positive behaviour, good work or for the focus of the week, every week CL provides a focus linking back to our vision and concept. E.g. This month is responsibility and respect and this has been drilled down to manners and ensuring learning areas are tidy at the end of the day. Each house will have a reward at the end of each half term, and these will be set at different levels, ensuring everyone has something to share in and it is meaningful. The rewards will be one of the first things the junior leadership team focus on. HH asked how the children have adapted to it. The Head said absolutely brilliantly, they love it and are embracing it. NH stated that it seem to have gone down very well with all the children and it would be good idea for a governor to pick this up as a link in the future.	
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8. AOB

For Information	To be Actioned
The clerk asked all governors who have responsibility for writing a section of the report to parents to submit their sections by September 28th. An email will be sent out individually by Friday.	

All documents relating to the meeting were available to view and comment on in the Governor Drive prior to the meeting.

This is a true and accurate record of the meeting.



Chair of the Curriculum Committee - Neil Harris

10.11.2021

Date