



William Penn Governor Newsletter – Summer 2018

It would have been pleasant to include something about our May Day celebrations, but as we used to say, “The Clerk of the Weather” had other plans on May 24th! At least the rain-off day was dry and the event very successful.

What *is* certainly pleasant to write, is that children at William Penn know about their rights as human beings, and have the language to talk about “the rights of the child”. This is part of an award by UNICEF – the Rights Respecting Schools Award – and we can be proud that already and in practice, children and adults around William Penn respect and listen to each other, and learn how to overcome the pains of getting on together. What a wonderful skill this is: something to underpin and enrich all our future. And, so closely related to “Restorative Practice” that the school has now implemented. We look forward to the next external evaluation, and will tell you more when that is made.

It is rare for all the Staff and all the Governors, Secretary and Chair and Head teacher to be able to all meet together, but that is what we shall be doing in June, at the INSET day on June 25th. It is a bit like looking at income and expenditure and the budget for the next year – but to me, far more interesting; because it’s about the ongoing plans for the school’s progress. Mainly, the children are the focus, because every new way of helping their learning and enjoyment is considered on that INSET Day, and included in the School Plan for Improvement – emerging as an action plan for the year ahead. Parents, as intimately concerned of course, also form a large part of the considerations, especially as to how we communicate your children’s progress and needs.

What is a drone? A male bee? A sound of bagpipes? For us this term, it is a remotely-controlled camera which is to take a video of the school at work and play, to be available for us all, and prospective WP parents and children, to see. Mr. Belas has this project in hand, and tells us that a pupil at The Weald, now planning to make his career in this profession, is giving us this DVD as part of his work-experience.

Best wishes from the Governors.

Su Johnston (Quaker Foundation Governor) on behalf of the Governing Body

