

Reporting a Governor visit to Kea School

Name Maureen Woodhouse	Date May 2016
Purpose of visit To gain evidence about Teaching and Learning and be informed about the curriculum and behaviour.	
Links with the School Improvement Plan Improving the curriculum. Are resources well used? With reference to 'Governors' Twenty Questions' number 20 (Are governors having an impact on outcomes for pupils?)	
Governor observations and comments The headteacher conducted a tour around the school. I visited all classrooms. Reception/Early Years: There are colourful displays which reflect the current topics. The children have opportunities to observe and wonder at nature e.g. tadpoles using magnifying glasses. They are taught to respect nature i.e. the small frogs are soon to be returned to the school pond. They grow plants in a mini greenhouse and could remember the names of the plants. The response to visitors is confident as they are keen to talk about their work and express opinions. A star chart contains positive comments from the children's parents and shows there is good liaison between home and school. Year One: The children are keen to learn and listen attentively to their teacher. They work outside in groups and cooperate well with each other. A scrutiny of their books shows they are learning about a variety of topics – homes, festivals, cooking etc. There is evidence of learning about different cultures. Their work is neatly presented and shows good progress e.g. handwriting has improved since September. All pieces of work are completed. Year Two: The children were completing some SATs activities so this was a very brief visit. Exercise books show improvement in content and presentation. Homework is matched to the stage the children are working at. There are constructive comments written by the teacher. There were some colourful folding books on various topics. These show careful presentation. Year 3 : There is marked progress since September e.g. presentation and handwriting has improved. Most children join their writing now. Topics include 'Cousin Jacks' and Cornish mining. Writing is very lively and interesting. They have opportunities to use a sewing machine. DT activities include making their own picture frames from wood and displaying their photo inside. Year 4: The children were working outdoors. There is evidence of the children using data in mathematics. There are various charts	

and graphs in their books and the children successfully interpret information. As in all classes the children work within their individual ability levels.

Year 5:

They enjoy a variety of topics such as learning about their shadows and measuring. The exercise books are well marked (this is the case in all classes). All teachers follow a marking code so there is good consistency throughout the school. At the end of a piece of work teachers set mini tasks which move the children's learning forward e.g. there might be a spelling to correct or a child might be asked to supply punctuation which had been omitted. Without exception these requests by the teacher are carried out by the child. Different coloured highlight pens draw attention the areas of success and where to improve.

Year 6:

The class was reading their end of term play. Year six continues to be a confident, hard working group. A variety of 'Thrive' activities have been used with individual children who need extra support. Homework is of a high standard and displayed imaginatively. The class has enjoyed topics such as The Romans and Light. A group of Year 6 children are responsible for the polytunnel.

General comments:

- Talents of the staff contribute to the children's enjoyment and learning e.g. there is a display of the children's art in the style of Monet. All children have the opportunity to cook.
- The children enjoy learning, and ask questions confidently. They are keen to discuss what they are learning.
- They show a positive attitude. There is good learning behaviour i.e. the children ask questions and contribute.
- There is a purposeful atmosphere in all classes.
- Displays of work are excellentinteractive, colourful, reflecting the current topics
- There is evidence of a rich curriculum throughout the school....visits, special projects, visitors, clay work at the museum
- There is an atmosphere of 'pride in our work'
- The school is tidy
- Resources are well cared for
- Health and safety is observed

Behaviour

The children are extremely well behaved. They are sensible in the corridors when moving about the school. They take turns and listen to each other. They participate in their work enthusiastically and share information with their classmates and visitors. Once again I am very grateful to the headteacher for giving her time in showing me the school at work.

Any issues for the governing body

None to report