

Headteacher Newsletter December 18

Apologies

A huge apology for not introducing Miss Munns officially to you. She joined us on the day that we received the Ofsted call and the office and I both believed we had communicated her arrival. She has been a huge support and asset to our team. It feels like she has been with us since September.

She has joined us as an interim Deputy Headteacher to allow us additional experience on the leadership team. She is currently leading Science and Assessment.

Ofsted

As you all are aware we had an Ofsted inspection for which we were graded 'Good'. We are so pleased with this outcome and that Ofsted could see the journey we are on to improve. They said we were 'committed to providing the best possible education.'

Thank you for all your support through this time. We now continue on our path to ensuring we embed our improvements.

Open Morning

Our pupil leadership team and peers did us proud on our Open Morning last Friday. They gave potential parents and their children tours of our school and the feedback was very positive. The children were knowledgeable and personable.

Parents saw well-behaved children throughout the school all engaged in their learning. They picked out the high quality work on display especially in Science.

They also had the chance to taste our delicious dinners and I would like to extend a thank you to Caterlink for providing this.

House captains on Remembrance day



Staffing

Recently we have had a few staff out of school due to illness. I understand that the concern is the work ethic this role-models to our children, especially as our expectation is high for our children's attendance. Teachers are just as accountable for their time off as our children and we are working hard with all persistent absentees to ensure we can support and improve their attendance.

Resilience is something as a school we are working hard to improve. This is a characteristic that underlies all our values and is crucial to learners at all levels.

Litter Angels winners



Peer review

Within our collaboration of schools we have been working with the Education Endowment Foundation (EEF) to pilot their Schools partnership programme. This supports the school evaluation process by each school working through a three part programme including: self-review, peer review and follow up workshops to create a robust, research based action plan.

Our peer review was on the 23rd November and we decided to use the opportunity to look at both schools together. Mrs Lewer and I came up with the evaluative question of 'Are our more able pupils given opportunities to develop as independent, curious and active learners in Maths?'

We had two Headteachers from schools in our collaboration spend a day looking for the strengths within both our schools and areas to develop. They observed lessons, looked at books and talked to pupils and staff. There were many strengths in both schools but it was seen that we could work across the schools more for consistency. The teachers will

now workshop with the support of the Improvement Champions, trained by the EEF to create a robust action plan for both schools.

Library

As a staff we had a huge sort out of our library books to ensure we have categorised them correctly. This was due to the feedback from pupils that the books weren't challenging enough. We realised that over the years books had been levelled differently and where children had helped us tidy the library the books had become jumbled.

Hopefully now we can extend our offer to the children and allow them to either have a correctly levelled book or choose a book for pleasure. Also this means all our staff can find and recommend books to children. Recommended reading lists will be distributed to class in the next few weeks.

Social media

We strive to achieve the best for all children, however we recognise that on some occasions you may feel that we could have done better.

We would be grateful if you do not use social media to raise complaints but instead, we encourage you to come into school and speak with us so that we can understand your concerns and help solve the problem. Complaints on social media can be damaging for the school, its staff and most importantly the children.

If you feel that an issue has not been dealt with appropriately, we will provide you with a copy of the formal complaints procedure.

Final thought

