Annual Statement of the Governing Body of Newport Infant School 2023-24

I am pleased to present the annual summary from the Governors to parents for this academic year.

Ofsted

In the Autumn term, the school had a 2 day inspection which resulted in an overall 'Good' judgement. The governing body were involved in this and were questioned about our roles and responsibilities and impact we have within school, as this forms part of the Leadership and Management judgment. We were pleased that all the areas were judged 'Good' and leaders were praised for being **'ambitious for what they want pupils to achieve. They have created an inclusive and welcoming environment.'** The report reflected the collective dedication of our staff, governors, pupils, and parents. I would like to thank the parents for their support and lovely comments to the inspectors.

Science Quality Mark

This year Miss Hodgkinson has been working on the Primary Science Quality Mark, alongside Mrs Mellings. The Primary Science Quality Mark (PSQM) is a whole school accreditation programme aimed at improving science teaching and learning. Miss Hodgkinson has delivered training to staff, worked with children on specific children on initiatives as well as planning whole school events. In March, the whole school project had a science focus and was linking to the environment and recycling. We are currently waiting the work to be marked to see if we meet the criteria for the award. We are very hopeful though.

Curriculum and Outcomes Committee

The committee this year have been ensuring the new National Music Programme is being used in school. The Music Lead met with the committee to explain her action plan and talk through the new music scheme we have purchased. The PTA have helped with the purchase of a class set of glockenspiels so it is our aim for all children to be able to play when they leave us!

The committee also analyse data presented from across the school and challenge on areas necessary. Our Year 2 data remains high as usual, and we are particularly proud of the progress the pupils in receipt of PPG made in reading this year.

Personnel and Finance Committee

Two key priorities for the Committee this year has been to work with the new Headteacher to set stretching performance targets and to ensure that we 'lived within our means' financially during the year. The second priority has been very challenging, and has led to the Committee meeting more frequently to review the budget position. The Committee is very pleased that due to the hardwork of the Committee and Headteacher the school has managed to balance its budget. There has been

significant premises maintenance required this year, both planned and unplanned. The Committee continue to support the Headteacher and Business Manager in lobbying T&W for further funding to recognise the need for further improvements to the building.

Early Years Committee

As the Early Years committee, we are proud of the progress the children in our early years have made this year. In the second year of the amalgamation of nursery to school, we are pleased with the offer of provision for the pupils and feel this is only going to continue getting better. High Five is also thriving due to the high-quality offer provided and we are proud that we are able to provide our parents and pupils with an expansive offer which meets the new government's agenda for wraparound care.

Health and Safety Committee

The Committee Chair has worked with the Headteacher to review the online filtering and monitoring the school has in place to ensure we are meeting the KCSIE online safety requirements. The Committee have received and reviewed the Safeguarding Audit, Fire Risk Assessment and Site Security Audit this year.

Link Governors

Each class have a link governor and these are invited into school at various times throughout the year. This helps governors have a useful oversight of the day to day running of the school and also the personal development of pupils when we hold special events. Here are some examples:

Barbara Greatorex - *Whole-school end of Science Week assembly and Owl Class visit*
Children were well behaved and mostly interested in what the different year groups had been doing during Science week. The Year 1 environment song went down very well.
After assembly I went into the classroom to view and listen to the work done by Owl class during the week. The work was nicely presented and pupils were generally proud of what they had done.
Parents came into the classroom before the end of school to celebrate with their children. Most children were excited and enjoyed sharing their work with their parents.

Jonathon Titmus – Site Security Audit with the Headteacher

During the visit I undertook a site survey, accompanied by Headteacher Emma Heeley. All entry/exit, and possible entry/exit, points were reviewed and found to have proportionate and effective controls in place. Headteacher completed Site Security documentation, reviewed and agreed by Governor.

Jackie Lewis – Special Education Needs Learning Walk with the SENDCo

Children encouraged to always be independent (particularly in acorn class with snack time and responding to routines). Staff know the needs of the children and can adapt accordingly. Routines are very clearly in place and support all children with their regulation. RWI structure is supportive of SEND and children know exactly where to get support when needed both from practical resources and an adult. There are clear steps in place before needing adult support. Behaviour across school was settled and calm.

Oliver Parker – Whole School Project : Olympics Opening Ceremony

I came in to witness the school Olympic opening ceremony of the whole school project. I thought the opening ceremony was absolutely fantastic, from the children carrying the pretend torch to the parading of the team flags!! All the children looked engaged with big smiles on their faces, also Mrs Gradwell can dance!

Buildings

The second phase of the window replacement will be taking place over the summer holidays, with any of the 70 year old windows and doors being replaced. Once this is done, we are hoping to start the redecoration programme within school.

We have been able to procure from a local house builder a number of building materials to undertake some needed refurbishment works to the staff toilets, Nursery toilets, and communal corridor. Works to include:

Staff toilets (new vinyl being laid, toilets being fitted, fit wash hand basin taps, tiling around wash hand basin and a re-paint of the whole room.

Nursery toilets (New taps, tilling around wash hand basin and a re-paint of the whole room)

Communal corridors repainted

We will need trade volunteers to help under take the works which will be a day or two over the summer break, so any volunteers will be greatly appreciated, separate correspondence has been sent out on this.

Governors wish to thank the staff for their continued hard work and parents and carers for their continued support during the year.



Emma Ordidge

Chair of the Governing Body