

Governors' Literacy Visit: 30 June 2014

A group of governors visited classes to see teaching and learning in Literacy

What did we do?

We visited all classes then had lunch with the children and talked to them about school.

Mrs Pickering, Literacy Co-ordinator, took us into the different classes, gave us information about the Literacy programme and answered our questions.

Nursery and Reception classes were using the outside learning area which gives the children lots of opportunities for language development.

Year 1 were listening to a story then in pairs were predicting what might happen.

Year 2 were working on the use of the contraction apostrophe.

Year 3 were using play scripts and learning about this particular writing form; some were using Reading Eggs in the ICT room.

Year 4 were performing using play scripts, paying attention to expression and sound effects.

Year 5 were outside in groups using iPads to record stills of incidents from the poem 'The Highwayman'.

Year 6 were looking at poetry, analysing a poem, then writing their own.

What did we learn?

EYFS uses child-led activities for assessment.

We saw stimulating and exciting opportunities to promote literacy.

Use of ICT is embedded in learning.

Interesting lessons are planned.

Displays around school supported learning.

There was a good range of activities.

We learnt that there is an additional scheme for next year, 'Talk for Writing', which increases children's abilities and confidence as writers. Staff have been on training sessions in this.

Ideas for future visits?

To see 'Talk for Writing' lessons. Perhaps we could attend training with staff on this scheme.

Positive comments?

Behaviour was excellent.

The children were focussed and engaged in their learning.

There was very good use of the outside space for learning.

'Top table' at lunchtime is an excellent innovation and a good reward and privilege.

What did we ask about?

We asked about EYFS and child-led activities.

We asked about the new curriculum in September 2014 and whether this would bring about any changes in the Literacy programme.

We asked about peer assessment and paired work.

Any other comments?

It was a very useful and informative visit, as we saw different activities and different ways of learning.

We were also able to talk to children in lessons and at lunchtime.

We were able to sample school lunch and see the new tables in the hall.