

## Governor Learning Walk 29 June 2016

### Focus: Focus Foundation Subjects

Governors in attendance: Janine Scott, Allan Butcher, Dennis Pickering

Reception – In both classes the children could confidently state their objectives in the activities they were involved in. At the beginning of the week challenges are set and discussed with input from the childrens' own interests. Small groups worked with the teachers and teaching assistants on specific activities for example reading, numeracy etc. whilst others were involved in independent learning. All the children were on task and clear improvements in their abilities were displayed around the classrooms.

Year 1 – The children had been tasting dips and finding out the ingredients in preparation for planning recipes to make their own dips. This also included the writing of recipes and demonstrated good cross curricular writing in a DT session. In the other Year 1 class history was being taught. The children were writing about changes in transport over the ages and comparing horse transport and trains – with particular reference to George Stevenson. Again children were very engaged in the activity and clearly enjoying this topic.

Year 2 – Geography lesson was observed – the topic being the Seaside. Children were working in groups and discussing and identifying manmade and natural objects to be found at the seaside. The seaside places highlighted on the map of Great Britain included Llandudno and Great Yarmouth. When responding to teacher initiated prompts the children used their experiences to recall past visits to the seaside and explained for example that sand on the beach is a natural material whilst piers and promenades are manmade.

Year 3 – A maths lesson was observed in which the children were learning and practicing tenths and decimal places. The other Year 3 class were having a geography lesson and looking at Ordnance Survey maps to highlight routes.

The R.E books were looked at from this year group. The children had recently visited a mosque in Liverpool – and Liverpool Cathedral - and had learned about the Five Pillars of Islam.

Expectation appeared high in both lessons.

Year 4 – The water cycle was being taught and the children were learning about condensation, precipitation and evaporation. They were able to explain to us the meaning of these terms and had a thorough understanding of the scientific vocabulary.

In the other class a taste test had already taken place and the children had analysed what ingredients they thought were in smoothies. They then decided in groups what ingredients to include in a smoothie they were going to make. They also designed labels for the bottles for the smoothies. Much enjoyment and enthusiasm was clear to see in this DT lesson. The planning stage focus from the School Improvement Plan appears to have been successful.

Year 5 – The children were working on a project to design electrical circuits incorporating buzzers. This was very impressive and the pupils were keen to show and explain their work. Children in the other Year 5 class were busy turning their earlier individualised paper designs of phone/tablet cases into actual cases using a variety of stitching techniques.

Year 6 – Pupils were working in groups researching cathedrals culminating in a writing task comparing Liverpool Cathedral with Amiens Cathedral in preparation for the upcoming trip to France, and practicing the French language. Compare and contrast questioning was effective.

Some pupils were on a transition day at the local secondary school.