**Cotton End Primary School**

**Governing Body Report**

**December 2019**

*We aim to provide our children with opportunities to become confident, happy children valuing and respecting diversity and who are proud of their achievements.*

**Governance**

The Full Governing Body meets once a month to discuss the business of the school. We currently have ten Governors and three Associate Governors.

Governors work hard in raising standards. The HT, Assistant Heads and Chair of Governors meet with the School Improvement Partner from Borough regularly, who challenges, supports and offer suggestions to the school to move standards even higher.

Monitoring of budgets is essential and each month all Governors can seek clarification on expenditure to date and projections to end of year from the Finance Manager, to ensure that the school stays within budget.

Governors give their time freely and are rewarded in the knowledge that the School is doing well with good results.

**Training**

Updating skills is very important. Staff are being released to attend both mandatory and skill based events. Governors also attend training events, provided by the Borough Council.

The Chair of Governors attend regular briefings at Borough Hall. All Governors are offered regular training at Borough Hall, on various topics such as, Ofsted Inspections, Finance, Curriculum, Health & Safety, Safeguarding etc. All Governors have roles and responsibilities relating to the School Development Plan. Governors undertake a visit as least once a year and are assigned to classes. Their reports are linked to the School priorities.

The School has a Designated Safeguarding Lead ~~Teacher~~ and a Safeguarding Governor who ensure they are kept up to date with the latest legislation, undertake safeguarding audit and attend various training events.

**Pre School**

The Pre School is going from strength to strength and is well attended and is enjoyed by all 2 – 4 year olds.

This term saw the beginning of a change of the school day with school closing at 1.30 on Friday afternoons with Care Club ~~from 1.30pm aimed at~~ available for working parents. The children are enjoying the various activities the Care Clubs offer

and are supervised by Teaching Assistants.

**Extracurricular activities include:-**

Dance club

Gymnastics Club

Choir Club

Ninja Academy

Football Club

**Helping Others**

Poppy Appeal

Children in Need – The children were excited to see the Children in Need Rickshaw going through the Village on the last Friday.

Macmillan coffee morning.

**Visitors to the school** **include –**

Tell a Story assembly

Yo Higton-Modeshift Stars

Smiley Sam-Keech Hospice

**Off Site Learning**

Faith Tour for years 3,4 and 5 The children visited a Mosque, Temple and a Church in Bedford

KS1 music concert of Winter wonderland at the Corn Exchange

Year 5 trip to Holdenby House

**PTFA Committee**

The Fundraising arm of the PTFA is currently on hold as we are planning to focus on larger projects. The PTFA was able to part fund Trim Trail equipment for the school, which is being installed in January, as we had some match funding from Woodshardwick Ltd and Jason Leonard.

**Wrap around Care provided by Dawn til Dusk**

*Breakfast Club* is open from 7.30am until 8.45am

*After School Provision*

The children have a snack at 3.30pm and a hot tea at 4.45pm. A programme of activities is varied and ‘special events’ are advertised on the school notice board.

**Cotton End is growing and is a thriving School the Governors are very lucky to have such a dedicated workforce!**

Sandra Thacker

*Chair of Governors*

*Cotton End Primary School - December 2019*