**Cotton End Primary School**

**Governing Body Annual Report**

**November 2016**

**School Mission Statement**

The Staff and Governors are working very hard to achieve the aim of obtaining ‘Outstanding’ rating at the next Ofsted inspection.

**Governance**

The Full Governing Body meets once a month covering Finance, Standards and Human Resources. We currently have nine Governors - 1 LA Governor, 2 Parent Governors, Headteacher, Staff Governor and 3 Co-opted Governors.

Governors work hard in raising standards and monitoring budgets. They give their time freely and are rewarded in the knowledge that the School is doing well with children making good progress from their starting points and numbers rising almost every term.The Governors note that the low 2016 SAT’s results were disappointing however the issues are being addressed and monitored closely with strategies put in place to raise standards in thefuture.

**Training**

Updating skills is very important. Staff are being released to attend both mandatory and skill based events. Governors also attend training events to keep abreast of changes.

The Chair and Vice Chair of Governors attend termly briefings at Borough Hall. All Governors have roles and responsibilities linked to the School Development Plan.

Governors carry out visits to the school with a focus related to their area of responsibility.

17th November 2016 - Health and Safety

18th November 2016 - Behaviour

We have a Safeguarding Governor and Teacher who ensure they are kept up to date with the latest legislation and attend various training events.

Whole staff training on Safeguarding - Friday 2nd September 2016

**Pre School**

The Pre School is going from strength to strength and is well attended and is enjoyed by all 3 – 4 year olds. We currently have 25 children on the register for this term. We are now accepting children at 2 years and 9 months.

**Main School**

From Reception to Year 6 the school is growing from the bottom upwards with

92 children on our registers. Years R, 1 and 2 are full with a waiting list.

**Off Site Learning**

**School Trips**

The School have been on several trips related to the creative curriculum which enhanced the children’s learning and broadened their wider experiences.

*Classes* –

Rabbits visit to Bedford Library

The children were taken to Bedford Library by the local bus service. Compliments were received on how well the children behaved.

Badgers – Nordic Walking experience with Sustrans

Promoting healthy active lifestyle

**Visitors to the school**  **–**

Open the Book – from the local Baptist Church

Reverend Smith – from St Mary’s Church, Cardington.

Gripping Yarns Story Telling Company

Performance of Tom and the Trolls – promoting Anti Bullying

Yo Higton Sustrans-Bike-it assembly

**Harvest Festival**

In October Parents and Governors were invited to the School’s Harvest Festival, which was well attended. This year the concert was held in Cotton End Village Hall – this is because the school hall is not now large enough to accommodate all family members. All children performed well and didn’t seemed fazed by the large number present.

**Future Dates –**

Friday 18th November-Spotacular Day for Children in Need

Thursday 24th November –Phonics workshop 2.45pm (parents of children in Rabbits and Hedgehogs)

**Christmas Performances**

Tuesday 13th December St Mary’s Church, Cardington

Rabbits and Squirrels at 2.30pm

Badgers and Otters at 4pm

Wednesday 14 December Cotton End Baptist Church

Pre School Christmas - at 10am

**Breakfast Club**

Dawn til Dusk run this provision and is open from 7.30am until 8.45am

**After School Club**

Dawn til Dusk also run this 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 fortunate to have such a dedicated workforce!**

Sandra Thacker

*Chair of Governors*

*Cotton End Primary School*