**Cotton End Primary School**

**Governing Body Report**

**September 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 5 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 good results and numbers rising almost every term.

This month we welcomed Mr Enock Katondo as a Governor of the School.

Enock lives with his family locally and has previously supported the School as a Governor.

**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 of Governors attend termly briefings at Borough Hall. All Governors have roles and responsibilities relating to the School Development Plan. We have a Safeguarding Governor and Teacher who ensure they are kept up to date with the latest legislation 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 3 – 4 year olds. We currently have 20 children on the register for this term. We are now accepting children at 2 years and 9 months.

**Off Site Learning**

As part of belonging to the Bedford and Kempston School Sports Partnership the children have taken part in many inter school sports events including multi-sports, quadkids, sports hall athletics and goalball. All of these activities supported our achievement of a Silver School games Award. KS2 children will have swimming lessons in the summer term at a local pool.

**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.

**These have included –**

* Temples and Churches in Bedford
* Ark Farm
* Airship Airlander
* Davis Cup-Bedford
* Bedford town and river-John Bunyan Community Boat
* Wider Opps music event at Kings House
* Swimming – Classes Badgers and Otters classes attended swimming lessons at Kempston pool during the summer term.

**Visitors to the school included –**

1. Open the Book
2. Reverend Smith
3. Richard Denton, Police Officer-E Safety
4. History off the page-Tudor Day
5. Education Group- fossils and dinosaurs workshop
6. Sustrans- Scooter skills and Art workshops
7. Maths Problem solving company
8. Bedford Library-summer reading challenge
9. Bedford Borough-ECER’s audit (EY)

**July 2016 –** At our end of term service we said goodbye to 8 children who moved to further their education at Bedford Academy.

**September 2016 –** 15 Pre Schoolers moved to Rabbits, 15 Reception children moved to Squirrels. In addition we welcomed 1 new starter in Year 5 at the beginning of term with another scheduled to start in Year 4in October.There are several children on a waiting list for places, 5 for Reception, 1 for Year 1 and 1 for Year 2.

**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 lucky to have such a dedicated workforce!

Sandra Thacker

*Chair of Governors*

*Cotton End Primary School*