**Cotton End Forest School**

**Governing Body Report**

**November 2022**

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

This is a growing school with two classes now from Reception to Year 3.

The Chair and Vice Chair attended several assemblies on Friday afternoons.

This is an opportunity for Governors to hear year groups explain what they have learnt and retained during the week. Showing their written work and pictures.

A recent outdoor learning week, focussed on Geography. With floor books in early years, understanding compass points, drawing maps, a class visited a zoo, another went round the local area.

Attendance figures are mentioned each Friday to identify which class had the most children in school that week. The aim is for 98% – the winners who have the highest percentage of attendance, receive ‘Charlie Bear’ to look after. Birthdays are also celebrated. Stars in KS1 and merits in KS2 are awarded for achievements made in their learning.

House points are given out at assembly and the winning house announced.

*Visitors to the School this term included:-*

1 The School Improvement Partner who visited in September, meets the Headteacher, Chair and Vice Chair of Governors, on progress made throughout the previous year. They agree what was achieved and identify areas for improvement. Attainment is always high priority, and our school achieved some good levels of attainment.

2 A PTFA coffee morning for parents and friends, in aid of MacMillan Cancer Support was held in September £224 was raised, well done everyone.

4 The children in Ospreys and Kestrel had a visit from Hazard Alley Safety

Centre. The children learned about the hidden dangers of Carbon Monoxide

in fun awareness sessions.

In October Halloween themed activities were arranged, lots of fun was had by

everyone.

Hudson’s Plant Centre, Willington donated a Christmas Tree to the school – A huge thank you to them.

Poppy Appeal – the School was able to offer children the opportunity to donate to this appeal. One minutes silence was held in school on the 11 November, Remembrance Day.

The Goalball team came first in their tournament

Bag2School challenge. The School raised £68.00 for much needed school funds.

**Forest School**

All children visit our forest school (Shocott Spring) during the school week. The first ever toddler forest school session took place this month. They had forest school cameras, read a story together at base camp and searched for forest school treasurers and relaxed in the woodland hammocks. They also built shelters for our woodland friends using natural resources.

Year 2 classes represented the school well at the sports tournament held at Mark Rutherford School.

**Book Scrutiny**

The Chair and Vice Chair met with the Headteacher for a book scrutiny from early years through to Year 6. We were able to see examples of:-

* How outdoor learning is incorporated into each subject area, with photos and pictures, with clear concise objectives.
* Marking of books reflect the school’s marking policy
* How the children self-assess their work
* Different levels of handwriting from Year 1 moving towards joined up writing

as children reach Key Stage 2. Those with the neatest handwriting are

awarded with an ink pen. Pencils are always used in Maths.

Our grateful thanks to the Headteacher and all staff who have all worked extremely hard for all the children at Cotton End Forest School.

*Sandra Thacker Diane Bozier*

*Chair of Governors Vice Chair*

 *Cotton End Forest School*