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Dear Parents,

Here we are, already part way through another academic term, how time flies. With Harvest festivals already completed and with the most exciting time just around the corner...school will yet again be super busy! I'd like to thank all the staff for their hard work and the children for helping make our schools' the wonderful places they are. I'd also like to thank you, the parents/carers of our children for all the wonderful support and help you give our schools. It makes such a difference to our children.

A few weeks ago, the Governing Body had their termly meeting to ensure that the school is running effectively and all children are progressing well educationally. In the interest of transparency, the Governing Body keeps you updated on items discussed at our full Governing Body meetings throughout each academic year. The minutes from each meeting are held in the school office, once they have been approved, and if any parent would like to look at these in detail please ask the Headteacher.

The following list is a summary of the points discussed during our recent Autumn Term meeting:

1. Steve Hall and I were voted in as Vice-Chair and Chair again of the Governing Body. I did however give notice that I intend to step down as Chair at the end of the academic year.
2. Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and any action/impact points were discussed:
 - All school fund accounts have been audited
 - An initial meeting has taken place with a local lady who is interested in joining the Governing Body and may potentially join us in the near future.
 - Work on updating the Federation's website and policies is ongoing.
3. It was reported that Church Preen had closed for 2 days as a circuit break, following Government Covid guidelines.
4. Minutes from Curriculum Committee was discussed:
 - Summer attainment data was reviewed and action plans have been put into place were pupils need further support.



- Joint activities have been planned between schools for the upcoming year. We are hoping to further develop links between all our schools now Covid restrictions are easing.
5. Minutes from the Business Management committee were discussed:
 - Pupil numbers at Church Preen are a concern. We need to address this and work hard to increase numbers.
 - Staffing issues at Wistanstow, mainly due to long-term staff illness, are being addressed.
 6. Terms of reference for committee and their structures were reviewed
 7. Marilyn Hunt gave the Head Teacher's Report to the Governors detailing progress within schools and updating Governors on whole school issues:
 - The Single Central Register has been updated
 - Governors agreed to purchase CPOMS which is an electronic Child Protection Online Monitoring System. This will allow all child protection issues to be accessed by staff from within the Federation wherever they are, allowing them to keep track and make links between occurrences easily.
 - Government catch up funding (which is very little for our Federation as it is based on Pupil Premium and the Federation doesn't have many children in this group) is going into Teaching Assistant time.
 - Pupils progress since returning to school was discussed and it was felt that as in all schools, some are behind where you would expect them to be, some are catching up, some are not. It is more noticeable with the younger children as they haven't had the early experiences in school due to the disruptions of Covid.
 - Since returning from Covid, school behavior in some cases had slipped, with sharing and negotiating and readiness for school with the younger children being particularly affected. Staff are addressing this within class.
 - At Brockton as of after half term, the majority of Year 2 children have moved into class 2. This is due to numbers and the readiness of the new children joining the school.
 - Pleasingly Marilyn reported that some after school sport clubs and competitions had restarted.
 8. Admission numbers for 2023/24 were set for all schools
 9. Governors have attended training in Child Protection, Curriculum and Science since the previous meeting.
 10. Child Protection and Safeguarding policy was agreed.
 11. It was agreed that all members of the Governing Body will read the following documents:
 - a. Keeping Children Safe in Education 2021
 - b. Safeguarding and Welfare Requirements of the Early Years Foundation Stage 2021

The above is a brief overview of what was discussed in the full Governing Body meeting. We hope this is of interest to you and gives you an insight into what goes on behind the scenes at The Edge Schools' Federation.

Many thanks
Amber Byrne
Chair of Governors