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Dear Parents,

Can you believe that Easter is just around the corner...I certainly cannot, however it is lovely to see the signs of spring and the sun starting to reappear. It has been a busy term in school, and I'd like to thank all the staff for working so hard.

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 Executive Headteacher.

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

1. Unfortunately, we have lost 3 Governors from the team, Simon Gray, Chris Jesshope and Peter Cox. They were great assets to the Governing Body and will be missed.
2. Three new Governors were welcomed onto the team:
 - Carole Fenton – Teacher at Wistanstow – has been appointed to the curriculum committee and is link governor for Children in Care
 - Kate Stone - Ex headteacher lives in Bourton - has been appointed to the curriculum committee and is link governor for Pupil Premium
 - Catherine Egleston – Ex teacher lives in Brockton - has been appointed to the curriculum committee and is link governor for Science
 - Laura Furniss and Simon James who were already part of the Governing Body were appointed as link governors for Safeguarding
3. Minutes from the previous meeting were agreed and any action/impact points were discussed:
 - CPOMS system has been implemented across the Federation. This is a piece of software that will help with safeguarding in our schools, allowing staff to record and report actions, incidents and concerns on one system.
 - Attendance policy has been updated.



- All Governors have read Keeping Children Safe In Education 2021 Part 1 and Part 2
 - School fund accounts are on the website
 - Work on updating the Federation's website and policies is ongoing.
4. Minutes from Curriculum Committee was discussed:
- Lesson observations and book scrutinies have been undertaken in all 3 schools and positive improvements have been seen
 - Performance management process has been undertaken and targets set for all teaching staff
 - Behaviour Management, Relationships and Sex Education and Use of film in the classroom policies were reviewed and adopted
5. Minutes from the Business Management committee were discussed:
- Pupil numbers at Church Preen continue to be closely monitored. A number of activities to promote the school have been undertaken and inquiries from potential new pupils have been received.
 - A working group has been put together to review the extended school provision at Church Preen and Brockton, including consultations with parent/carers/PTA etc .
6. Marilyn Hunt gave the Head Teacher's Report to the Governors detailing progress within schools and updating Governors on whole school issues. In addition, there were also reports from the Assistant Head at each school
- Covid – 19 cases continue to have an impact on attendance for staff and pupils.
 - Parent/Carer surveys for this term were on the whole generally quite positive, however there were some pockets of parents who were unhappy about specific issues, and these were being addressed.
 - Staffing of extended school provision remains an issue. Both clubs (Brockton and Church Preen) are also running at a deficit due to small numbers attending. Parents who utilised the clubs and responded to the survey expressed strong views that the provision should remain (and be extended in terms of after-school hours) in order to better support working parents.
 - Mrs Barbara Townley has retired as Assistant Headteacher at Wistanstow and Mrs Chloe Russell has submitted her notice of resignation as Class 1 teacher at Wistanstow for the end of this term. Both will be sorely missed. Two very good candidates have been appointed on a job share to teach the class until the end of term.
 - Attendance across the Federation is good.
 - There has been a variety of staff training taking place across the Federation
 - Pupil progress is beginning to improve. The picture will be clearer when we have next terms data to compare against.
 - Cross federation links are beginning to take place again with joint events and trips taking place.
 - Lots of clubs and events are back taking place in school, including the Easter Services and spring activities.
7. Shropshire Council Governor Services earlier in the term had carried out a review of the effectiveness of the Governing Body. Overall, the report was very positive, and the Governing Services Manager was satisfied with the performance of the Governing Body.
8. Each school's School Development Plan was discussed, and it was reported that overall, there had been good progress towards the actions/targets in the plan.
9. The Attendance Policy and School Teachers Pay and Conditions and Pay Policy were approved and adopted.
10. Marilyn reported that The Federation's schools only receive a small amount of Covid-19 Recovery Funding from the Government, and this was spent on providing additional Teaching Assistant hours to support all pupils.

11. Governors have attended training in Health and Safety and a refresher course from the Diocese since the previous meeting.
12. Governors agreed that Brockton School could complete the postponed 2020 walk to Aberdovey this June, subject to compliance with any Covid restrictions in place at the time.

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