

Chairs Report of Curriculum and Standards Committee Meeting

Friday, March 11th 2016

Committee

Attendance Liz Court (Chair), Craig Tallon, Juliyah Brown, Elaine Hurley, Mervat Khalil, Kay Vanner

Apologies received and accepted from Philomena Moore.

Report

There were no matters arising from the previous meeting.

The meeting was mainly concerned with 'Assessment without levels'. The government has abolished the system of 'levels'. Test marks will be converted to a SCALED SCORE. A scaled score of 100 means that the child has met the expected standard for the subject at the end of key stages.

Schools are now free to develop their own assessment policies. Members were concerned that this could cause concerns nationally.

Mark Russell (Deputy) gave governors a detailed account of the huge amount of work he and senior staff have done to produce a programme of assessment that adequately demonstrates pupil progress at Woodcroft School.

They have used the computer programme 'Target Tracker' to show pupil progress, particularly in Reading, Writing, Maths and Science based on the new National Curriculum.

Each Year Group has a programme to follow and be assessed against. Teachers are able to keep detailed checks on each pupil's progress and targets. Evidence in children's work should support progress achieved. Detailed reports of progress, work to be done and teacher comments will be given to parents.

Craig Tallon (Head) gave a progress breakdown of 'two steps or more' for each Year Group from Autumn 2015 to Spring 2016. This showed average progress ranging from 76.3% from Foundation Yr. 1 to 97% for 'Summer Born' pupils in Yr. 6.

Interestingly, 'First Language English pupils in Yr. 6' scored less. This follows a national trend.

Foundation Stage

A Baseline Assessment policy for 'Early Excellence' assessment is being undertaken. An assessment was done in two parts within six weeks. Woodcroft is on course for a 'Good level of development' in physical progress, not so much in maths and English.

Governors' website, Information re Future Projects, included:- the 'Pavilion Opera' working with Yr. 5 on 'Macbeth'; 'Alive and Kicking' – A PSHE Healthy Lifestyle programme; 'Art Week' – for each year group to have a 3 day focus linked to Arts Charter Award.

Craig also reminded us of recent events:- Literacy Week, Digital Tech Day, Samba Residency with Ollie Turner and the hatching, growth and return of chicks in Yr. 3. Some of us witnessed their return to the farm in the foyer at lunchtime.

Finally, we were given a copy of an article from the Borehamwood Times praising Woodcroft's production of 'The Mystery of Queen Nefertiti' at the 'Be Your Best J Rock' production at Stevenage Leisure Centre on February 23rd.

The School was awarded a well-deserved second place for the outstanding production.

Congratulations to Football and Netball teams for their success. We celebrate School success with Unicorn Collaboration. Each Year Group enjoyed Theatre Trips and resources development.

Liz Court (Chair)

11/3/16