**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING HELD AT SCHOOL 11/5/17**

PRESENT :- Jill Ryder, Sharon Lord, Christine Pascoe, Dave Kay, Kate Burch, Pip Cartmell.

APOLOGIES :- Tom Benson, Tony Callcutt, Anna Neville, Una McGovern.

1. Matters arising from last minutes.

* Kate has 2 old sheds which can be donated to the school for forest school storage but will need someone to dismantle them and bring them to school and erect.

1. Head of school report

* See attached report
* Amanda Berry has asked to go back to her original hours so Jill is now teaching in Class 2 one day a week and in Class 4 half a day a week.
* Tracey Clark has settled very well into the school and is a great asset to the teaching staff.
* 2 TAs have left and due to budget restraints will not be replaced.
* The School Improvement Plan and Self Evaluation Forms are in place.
* The school is expecting to be inspected by Ofsted next term.
* The falling number of children on role could be a trigger for Ofsted. Jill has records of the reason families have left.
* There are still 5 places available for reception in September and there are spaces throughout the school which need to be filled. A reduction in numbers has a big impact on budgets.
* The school is being marketed to try and fill spaces. They have come up with a 5\* education plan for the school which is promising to offer:-
* Public performance. All children will be given an opportunity to perform publicly in a leading role on at least 2 occasions.
* Sporting event. All children will be given an opportunity to represent the school at a sporting event.
* Arts. The school will run an arts week and will exhibit work in a public gallery.
* Food and farming.
* Whole school beach trip will be arranged every year.

Discussions about marketing. Song machine is going to be performing in the Ashburton Choirs Festival which could be used to market the school. Jill will look into the possibility of getting something into Around Ashburton, Around Buckfastleigh and the parish magazines. Also pictures from the May Day celebrations could be used.

Lucy Field has taken over the School Committee from Becky MacDonald.

Jill’s visit to Blackawton was very helpful in preparation for Ofsted.

Jill has raised issues with the governors about finance, budgets and meeting children’s needs which will be discussed in the full governing board meeting this evening.

KS2 SATs have finished today. Tracey Clark ran mindfulness and meditation practices each morning for the children which worked very well. The children seemed to cope very well with the SATs.

Some parents have been upset about the attendance letters being sent out. The school has softened the wording from the one which was suggested by the Local Authority but it has still upset some parents. Parents need to know that the letters have to be sent. This is not a school decision to send them but a requirement on them. The school has to monitor and follow up repeated absences. The school is monitored on how they deal with absence so they cannot ignore it. The school has a safeguarding duty to deal with this.

1. School ethos, SIAMs and RE

* See attached report
* The current value in school is perseverance. It was agreed that it would be helpful for parents to be told what the current value is, so that it can be reinforced at home. Talked about having a slip system where parents could record moments when they spotted the value being lived out at home. Jade Sutton came into school. She was a very inspiring 12 year old who gave a very impressive presentation.
* Questioned if collective worship is always in school hall. The church is being used as a place for collective worship when led by John Vinton and Marisa, who are covering during Tom’s absence.
* Place of prayer in school discussed: Staff are re-looking at their class prayers, with an eye to creating new ones and encouraging children to say their own ones too. Grace continues to be said at lunch time, which is child led. Prayer gives a time for stillness within the school day and links well with the practice of mindfulness.
* Discussions have been had about evidence of spiritual development and what that looks like for the children.
* Sharon Lord has created a scrapbook to be used in collective worship to celebrate “wow moments” experienced at home or school. Committee members to encourage parents to become involved and support this.
* There are proposed SIAMS changes but if we are inspected it is likely to be on the old system.
* Questions/discussion about pupil voice in this area. The children are going to be brought on board to help monitor our distinctly Christian ethos and a Children’s Ethos Group will be created for this which will be separate from the School Council and will possibly consist of one child from each year group, except reception.
* It was agreed at the meeting with HoS and Penny Burnside to devise a monitoring program across the 3 church schools, which will include observation of collective worship.

1. Parent rep feedback

* It has been asked if the day of class assemblies can be varied so they are not always on a Friday.
* It was noted that Class 3 has not had a class assembly this year as one was postponed.
* Car parking is still a problem but it is noted that many village schools don’t have a car park. The car park actually belongs to the church and is sometimes used by the church. It is suggested that some signs could be put up about the one way system which parents know but visitors may not.
* There was a lot of positive comment about the May Day celebration on the green.
* The new menu has been well received.
* Lost property is an issue. Kate Burch and Pip Cartmell have offered to keep on top of lost property by returning any named items regularly but parents can check the lost property themselves if they have missing items. It is important that all items are named. Parents will be reminded in a newsletter about this.
* There have been complaints about potholes in the road to school. Any complaints should be notified to the Highways Authority or can be reported on an app called Fix My Street.
* It would be helpful to give parents some information about the role of the school committee and consideration to be given at the next meeting to who the parent reps for each class will be and how they are publicised to parents.

1. FOLS

* 3 grant applications for the play trail have now been submitted. An outcome is unlikely to be known until July/August.
* The sale and bags 2 school was successful raising £284 together.
* The party last week raised £142.
* The next event is the summer fair (16th June) which will be discussed at the FOLS meeting on Wednesday 17th May at school at 7.30pm.

1. Health, safety and behaviour

* Accident book, think zone log and scrap book signed.

1. Date for next meeting

* 6/7/17 at school at 6pm.
* Christine to chair the next meeting.