**SCHOOL COMMITTEE MEETING 1/12/16**

PRESENT :- Jill Ryder, Sharon Lord, Kate Burch, Anna Neville, Dave Kay, Christine Pascoe.

APOLOGIES :- Tom Benson, Una McGovern, Tony Callcutt, Pip Cartmell.

1. After school club can now continue following commitment being given by a number of families to support it. It will continue to ring on Mondays and Wednesdays.
2. Head of School report was shared with the meeting
3. SIAMS/RE/Ethos: Sharon discussed Collective Worship Survey – outcomes very positive.

Sharon explained that she has been meeting with RE leads in church schools to look at Understanding Christianity resource and how to use this alongside existing plans for World faiths. There is a 1/3 2/3 split in world faith and Christianity teaching.

An advent candle project has also been devised for the church schools to take part in.

1. Class numbers discussed.
2. A full time TA has been agreed for Class 3 and will start after Christmas.
3. Less than 50% of parents paid the voluntary contribution for Arts Week so the school will have to consider how to run it next year.
4. Arts Week was a great success and the exhibition was very good with the school ambassadors doing a great job in promoting the school to prospective parents. Some parents have suggested that it would be good to run the exhibition a bit later for those parents who work.
5. School dinners have improved greatly and, as a result, the take up has increased with few now having packed lunches.
6. Riverford has not been providing the veg tasting box which they had suggested. Jill will take this up with them.
7. Some parents have questioned how the school house is being used. It is acknowledged that the library is not being used regularly as a library but this is because it needs an overhaul. The Foyles grant application (for £10000) is going to be submitted very soon and FOLS has agreed to contribute £1000. It has been recommended that 2500 new books are needed for the library. It is however used on a regular basis for group work, research (making use of limited stock and learn pads) and intervention groups work. Upstairs is used for Academy staff which had always been the intention.
8. Some parents have expressed concern about the number of children in Class 3. There will be 32 in the class after Christmas and the classroom can take up to 38. Having a full time TA in the class will help.
9. Discussion about doing some after school activities, e.g. sports or craft clubs. A sports club needs a qualified teacher. Riverford had also suggested a gardening club. Jill will raise this with them again.
10. Next meeting 2/2/17 at 6pm at school.