Governor Classroom Visit - Class 5- Summer Term 2015

The brief for our Governor visit this term was to observe PE. This was not a difficult task with my class who are fortunate to be taught by the teacher with responsibility for coordinating the school PE programme, Mr. Saul. As I walked through the school to join my class I encountered PE activities of all sorts. There was fencing and cycling in the playground and ball games being played in the hall. Class 5 were in the playing field where Mr Saul was teaching ball skills including catching, throwing, forming chains and teamwork. Mrs Doyle seemed to be especially skilful and was also very helpful in explaining the rules of a complicated game of rounders/baseball . Obviously the PE sessions aren’t just about the physical exercise but also develop many other attributes and incorporate other subjects along with social interaction and communication. The class ran around all afternoon, they played well and had great fun. Everyone joined in and contributed to a very enjoyable afternoon.

The afternoon concluded with a French lesson with Mr Campbell for Class 4 so I was able to take the opportunity to ask Mr Saul about the achievements in PE this academic year and learn a little of the plans for the future. There was so much to tell that only the bell marking home time ended the conversation. There is obviously a huge enthusiasm and commitment to support PE at Orrets Meadow. Mr Saul felt the backing and support provided by Mrs Duncan was instrumental and so important. PE brings so many benefits and rewards. The school is small enough for the staff to be aware of individual pupil’s strengths and needs in PE as well as in other areas allowing activities to be targeted and focused. One of the main aims is to encourage an interest and enjoyment so that children feel confident enough to pursue sport and be involved outside school and encourage lifetime participation. Both children and teachers have been surveyed to help monitor and assess the impact of PE, the results have helped to inform and plan continuing professional development for teachers as well as lesson planning, festivals and competitive opportunities. Mr Saul has been released to coach other members of staff to increase awareness and expertise. The breadth and depth of PE involvement is huge. There has been national recognition with the Sainsbury’s Games Silver Award with the possibility of Gold in the future. Fantastic!

Thank you once again to Class 4, Mr Saul and Mrs Doyle for a very interesting enjoyable and informative visit.

Caroline Innes

Parent Governor