**ORRETS MEADOW GOVERNOR VISIT**

**MONDAY 8TH DECEMBER 2014**

**PURPOSE OF VISIT - To undertake an audit of pupil reading.**

During my visit, I had the opportunity of listening to the children read. Pupils showed enthusiasm for their reading and the teaching assistant working with the pupils I observed encouraged them to use strategies to help them decode words that they were not sure off. She spent time to confirm they understood the story and explained to me how she uses ‘probe’ words to check how children read a variety of words out of context. The pupils are expected to read the sheet in a minute and once they have achieved this they like the opportunity to re-read the words and try and improve on their time. The pupil I spoke to was very keen to tell me how he can read the sheets and he felt he had got better at the words.

I saw another pupil use Bug Club which is a software programme to support reading by offering pupils different types and levels of books. The programme gives the user a chance to read the book and every now and again it would ask a question to check the child understood the comprehension element. Answering the questions correctly allowed the user to gain a token (it looked like a frog like face) once they have so many they then have the opportunity to design an ‘Avatar’ that they can personalise.

Both pupils read at home and they were keen to tell me about their books and what type of books they enjoyed. It was a pleasure to witness the pupils enjoying their reading and I would like to see how they progress later on in the academic year. One pupil who had not been in the school for long had really made good progress with his reading and you could see he felt confident and enthusiastic when he spoke about his experiences of reading.

**MFL in the classroom**

Whilst I was in the school I was invited to sit in on an Italian lesson. The teacher explained to the pupils how to work out a mathematical problem and use a crossword type puzzle. The pupils needed to add, subtract and then find the equivalent in Italian to put into the crossword. The teacher delivered the lesson in a fun way and pupils were very keen to join in and share their answers. All pupils participated well and worked hard to answer the questions in the crossword. there was plenty of support and I joined in with the lesson, fortunately I had taken Italian at school so could help! The pupils listened well and they had a good ear for pronunciation it was a fun and an educational lesson and everyone, including the adults had a really positive lesson.

I would like to thank the pupils and staff very much for making me feel welcome and I look forward to visiting again, it is always a pleasure to visit Orrets Meadow.