Governor report for Class 6 Spring 2018

# observing lunch, play and clubs with class 6 on 29th January 2018

My visit to observe my Governor class going about eating their lunch and joining in lunchtime play and clubs was a lot of fun and very informative, and having an opportunity to sample the lunch myself was a real pleasure.

I arrived at the school just prior to lunch, and what struck me is the sense of calm that surrounded the dining room as the children entered. There was mindful music playing as the children entered and they were encouraged to sit calmly awaiting the other classes to arrive in the hall. This seemed to result in a general calm feeling as the children in table order went to get their food. There was a mix of hot dinners and packed lunches and the two groups sit together rather than be split, which I have seen at other schools – I liked the sense of togetherness. First of all, a chosen group of year 6 children help the younger children to manage their tray and choice of food – fantastic. The children are very aware of what ‘lunch day’ it is each day, as there is a two week rolling programme – ie 10 different themes over the course of two weeks. Today’s theme was Italian, and the children on hot dinners, enjoyed very much their Spaghetti Bolognese followed by a sponge and custard. It was so pleasurable and satisfying to watch how much the children enjoy their dinners, and also readily jump up for seconds enthusiastically when allowed. Some of the feedback from the children was ‘it’s really nice’, ‘I love having seconds’. ‘I love knowing each day what I can have’. The system adopted for lunchtimes is slick and organised considering how much activity including eating lunch is involved. As soon as the children have finished lunch, the children are able to go outside for general play, although there are organised zones for children to visit, such as hula hooping, scooters etc.

At 1 o’clock, the children have an opportunity to visit the copious amounts of clubs that there are. Each and every child know what clubs there are. I was shown around the clubs by the lovely Katie-May. There were quite a few children at a sports event out of school today, so the clubs weren’t as well attended as usual, but even with just a few children, the enthusiasm and constructed play was very evident. I went to art club where they were very proud of the bracelets they were making, Wii club – which looked a lot of fun, and the games can be adapted depending on how many children are there, computer club – seems to be perhaps one of the most popular and sewing club – very calming, and children seem to ensure very much. Finally I went to the play leaders meeting, this is voluntary for year 5 children, who can suggest and compile a list of games that they can play at breaktimes with the younger children – on the new list for this week is – bowling, hoopla, snakes and ladders and noughts and crosses – just brilliant, and the year 5 children were so enthusiastic.

The process of the children clearing up in the playground as the bell rings, is seamless as each and every child was involved in helping, the children then line up and make their way – very quietly and respectfully back to their classrooms. The transition between lunchtime and back to class was superb, the class rooms play again the mindful music, which helps to calm the children back down and ready for lessons!

I really enjoyed my time with the children once again, I am proud to be a Governor at such an amazing school, thank you for having me for lunch.

Sue Mason