**GOVERNOR – CLASS 6 VISIT – 4TH NOVERBER 2016**

As always it is a pleasure to visit Orrets and see the children participating their lessons. Today I was fortunate enough to be invited into Class 6 to observe their phonics and reading.

I would really like to thank Mr Kophamel, Mrs Doyle and Mrs Mervyn for making me feel so welcome. This was my first visit with Class 6 so it was lovely to meet the children and the staff.

Reading is a high priority for the school and it was wonderful to see how the lesson was structured to ensure that no activity was too long, it was fast paced but activities changed so children did not become bored. The classroom environment promoted a relaxed atmosphere but it did not detract from the subject or the learning outcome. All the children were happy and keen to learn. Mr Kophamel gave an overview of the lesson and was clear how the day would be organised.

I was able to sit and witness a 1:1 reading session and observed how the pupil was given a grid with words on. She was asked to read out the word and then was asked afterwards what their meaning was so it was clear on what the word said and its meaning. During this session the teaching assistant discussed her reading book with her and she finished off the story. The little girl enjoyed the session and was happy to explain about different aspects of the story. The session was relaxed but work was being done. Every pupil has the opportunity to access this 1:1 support daily and I could appreciate how this quality support would help each child gain confidence.

During the lesson the teacher explained when letters blend together they make different sounds, the children were given a short period to make up words using their own letters. Some letters had been removed to make the activity a bit more challenging. This was popular and the teacher gave out house points for effort according to how long a word was.

The children had lots of resources to support them and within the classroom and I noticed there was a lot of supportive material around the walls. There was a poster explaining about contractions and I noticed during the 1:1 reading session the pupil was really comfortable reading words that had contractions. The children completed their half hour session with a word grid before going to assembly.

All too briefly my visit was over but it was wonderful to see how the school promotes reading, and supports the children to become independent and confident.

I am looking forward to visiting again in the near future.

***Cindy Cooper***

***Vice Chair of Governors***