Wolves Class Visit – 12/10/2021

I must begin by saying what a lovely and enjoyable afternoon I had in school. It began with lunch with the children of Wolves class. The routine of lunchtime is something that has clearly been practiced with the children in all classes but to see the youngest members of the school so happy and confident was quite unbelievable after only 6 weeks in the school. Mrs Duncan read out what was on the menu for the day and then ran through the lunchtime clubs available once. These were also very clearly visible on the hall wall.

After I had eaten, I was shown around the lunchtime clubs taking part that day from Lego club, football, computers, art……the variety of activities for the children to take part in meant there was something for everyone. They were all really engaged and there were smiles from every room we visited.

The afternoon was spent in the Wolves classroom, I was warmly greeted by Mrs Warren and the team and introduced to the children. The children arrived in from lunchtime and were given a regulation activity to complete followed by a calm, relaxing, sensory story. The children reacted well to these activities, and they helped to settle them down from the excitement of lunchtime ready for their afternoon work.

The afternoon timetable was clearly visible and the use of the visual timetable was returned to several times to show the children what tasks had been completed and what was still to come next.

The children were assisted by several teaching assistants throughout the afternoon, with a couple of children being assisted out of the classroom when needed be it in the light room or for a run around the playground if needed. The staff clearly knew the individual children’s needs and adapted accordingly throughout the afternoon.

The lesson I observed was a dimensions curriculum and the topic for Wolves class was Dinosaurs. Mrs Warren began by asking the children some recap questions to see what they had remembered so far. Mrs Warren later shared with me the mind map from the very first lesson and the difference in their knowledge in such a short time was phenomenal. The children then learnt about camouflage. They were fully engaged and put their hands up to answer questions asked. The children were then to copy a drawing of a dinosaur and using leaves and paints try to camouflage their drawing. They thoroughly enjoyed the activity.

Once completed we went next door into the active learn area whilst the paint was tidied away. This area was set up to complement the topic with activities to promote turn taking and sharing and all themed around dinosaurs e.g. tuff trays of dinosaurs, book case with dinosaur books, maths activities.

Next was life skills lesson and the children had to sit on the carpet and match their first name with their surname and then write it themselves. The children enjoyed seeing their names and recognising that it was them. Again the staff in the room knew the children’s needs and who would require a little more support.

A story in the library followed. The children lined up quietly and walked sensibly across to the library. They then had the opportunity to put their library books back which they were assisted to do, making sure they went back in the correct place. The new library that the school have put in place has a clear purpose and is helping the children to develop their love of reading from a young age.

Once back in class it was time for the goodbye songs which the children then k new was the signal to start getting their coats and bags to go home.

I had such a lovely afternoon with the children and staff of Wolves class and it is clear they have developed strong relationships already. Only 6 weeks into the school year and for some of these children into Orrets Meadow and you really would not have known. They are such a lovely group of children and I cannot wait to visit again very soon.