Woodchester Endowed C. of E. (Aided) Primary School

Making memories for LIFE
Learning; Inspiration; Faith; Everyone

MINUTES OF ETHOS COMMITTEE, HELD ON 10th February 2020 at 9.15

PRESENT: Revd Peter Francis (Chair), Mrs Lynn Pennington (Head teacher), Mrs Sally Bull (minutes), Mrs Tessa Pemberton, Mrs Emma Limburn

Item no		Action
01.02.20	**Apologies**: Mrs Natalie Elliott, Mrs Helen Evans Revd Peter Francis arrived shortly after the meeting had started.	
02.02.20	**Minutes of the last meeting held on 19th September 2019** These formed the basis of most of the items discussed at the meeting.	
03.02.20	**Bishop's Visitor Alison Locke on 6th February** The HT explained that she had asked for a visit in the light of concerns of the maternity leave cover for RE subject leader. He had been reassured by her help. They had looked at books from one class and at planning. She saw the planning document for Understanding Christianity produced by the RE lead in conjunction with Debbie Helm and talked about the current assessment sheets. She also met with pupils to talk about RE. She raised the issue of marking, indicating RE was not being marked as a core subject, with more frequent assessment required. It was suggested that all 3 areas (making connections, making sense of belief and understanding the impact) should be assessed each time as they were only assessed once a year each under the present arrangement. The HT explained that assessment aims to identify the exceptional and those not reaching the expected standard rather than producing detailed assessment for each pupil. Alison Locke will return in May to do a follow-up visit.	**MS and HT**
04.02.20	**Reflection Tables** The HT spoke about ILLUMINATE, a diocesan initiative launched in September which she had learned about in meetings at Dursley which included a session from Debbie Helme on reflective spaces. She shared examples of OW activities on reflection tables, for example a chance to hand anxieties over to the worry monster. Lots of practical activities had been suggested. GQ Do children have a chance to talk to someone about worries rather than just posting them? The HT explained that there were plenty of opportunities in school for children to share worrying feeling and negative emotions with staff or with Wendy. The HT suggested that as the prayer tree/pebble table in the corridor is always there children could take part in reflective activities without feeling conspicuous. It was felt that with ideas supplied by Mrs Elliott and those from Debbie Helm, there was plenty of very good material. The HT reported that Jo Wetherall, the Children and Families Officer, will come and do some work on spirituality with staff on an Inset day. It was suggested that this could be shared with Brinscombe. Revd Francis will speak to Debbie Helme about the possibility of arranging spirituality sessions.	**PF**

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	The HT said she had had training in P4C and is returning for more.	
05.02.20	**Monitoring Proformas – aiming for smarter paperwork** Mrs Bull passed round a new form for monitoring and evaluating worship and some supporting questions designed to encourage a focus on areas important for SIAMS. It was suggested that the top of the form contained too much information and that it did not allow for the different types of worship which happen over the week. The HT will agree a heading for the form to ensure the vision is incorporated more briefly and Mrs Bull will visit Beech's class worship on Thursday and a worship a day after half-term before adjusting the form.	**HT** **SB**
06.02.20	**Prayer Week Follow-up** The HT suggested that work with the children on the one body concept – what it means to children to live this out - would be better left until September. Mrs Limburn suggested that children could perhaps take the idea home over the holidays and come back in September with something they could put into a bucket to share. Year R are part-time for the first few weeks so it may be a good idea to wait until they are attending all day. The HT felt that there were good opportunities for children to work together in different combinations and age group sin the Prayer Week which could replicated. It was felt that the adults leading the activities in church had been particularly good at explaining WHY and that some could perhaps be involved in September.	
07.02.20	**SIAMS interim report** The HT said she thought a spiritual policy was required but that this might overlap with some existing policies. The school is now subscribing to Picture News which provides all resources to go with reflection on a topical theme. Work on Forest Schools and spirituality is on hold as Mrs Holmes is off sick. There had been plans to involve all classes on a Friday. A Governor asked what is meant by shared language and theology on the areas for improvement identified on the last Siams report. Revd Francis explained.	**PCC** **TP and all govs**
08.02.20	**New Foundation Governor** The Chair of Governors has approached several possible candidates, one of whom still seems to be considering the role. Revd Francis will speak to the Vicar for Selsley to see if there is anyone in that congregation who is suitable and will ask Charlie Evans.	**PF**
09.02.20	**AOB** **Kids' Stuff-** is preparing lists for an Adlent calendar with children encouraged to give over the Lent period. These lists could be handed to classes to encourage participation. Donations could be collected at Messy Church. **LWF** – more participation by the children was considered. A "show and tell" activity where adults and children brought items which are important to them	

	and talked about them was suggested as a possibility. Musical performances were also encouraged. **Meeting times** There was discussion about whether meetings should be moved back to Monday mornings but it was decided to leave things as they are until the end of the academic year. Mrs Bull pointed out that she is away for the next planned meeting.	
	Dates of Next Meetings: Tuesday 12th May at 9.45 **The Meeting closed at 11.15am**	

Signed as a true record ……..

Dated ……

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