



Governor Learning Walk Visit 28 Feb 2024

A group of governors visited school to look at RE and assessment. Before we visited classes we read some information on RE from the RE self-evaluation document, trust link visit report, School Improvement Plan, and the RE overview of the year.

Links with School Improvement Plan Quality of Education

All teachers and subject leaders to develop assessment opportunities across all subjects, particularly, in foundation subjects, in order to gain an accurate view of what pupils already know and what they need to know further so that they can progress.

Leadership and Management

To improve subject and pedagogical knowledge to enhance teaching and assessment.

What did we do?

We visited classes, looked at children's work and talked to the children and some of the staff.

Nursery children were finishing off their Celebration topic with different activities at different levels eg using the food corner, setting the table with pretend cakes. Some children were outside. There was a good sense of play, sharing and communication between the children who were happy to include us in their activities.

Reception children were looking at the theme of Growing. Again, there were different activities: some had been on a spring walk in the school grounds; some were drawing still life pictures of daffodils in a vase and some were checking on the chickens which had hatched recently.

Year 1 children were looking at the main parts of the Mass and had stuck pictures into a booklet and had then added ready-printed captions. The children were also encouraged to write their own captions to explain the pictures. Children were very pleased to discuss the subject and talk about what they were doing.

Year 2 were sitting at the front of the class and were following a story on the smart board about celebrating a teacher's retirement. The teacher was reading the story and asking questions about the different parts of the story.

Year 3 were learning about the Eucharist. The teacher was taking them through the parts of the Eucharistic Prayer and asking questions. There was an opportunity to read through books and see the presentation of work.

Year 5 were learning about the Last Supper. There was a 'big question' on display about memorials which linked with the topic. The children were making connections between the Last Supper and the Mass. There was use of art (image of a painting) to assist the lesson and the children were interested in the painting of the Last Supper and were linking this to the sacrament of the Eucharist. A student explained it was by Leonardo Da Vinci and was keen to describe what was happening in the image and to explain and talk about the subject generally.

Year 6

Ash Wednesday and Lent knowledge was discussed as a recap at start of a new topic. The children had answered some questions in their books and had written a prayer and the teacher was going through the questions and answers. The level of knowledge



demonstrated and the subject specific vocabulary used by children were impressive, as was the teacher's enthusiastic conveying of the subject.

What did we learn?

We saw how post-it notes were used by teachers to show where there was evidence of learning outcomes for assessment.

We talked to the children about their work and they were all able to explain what they were doing and what they were learning.

We saw how the 'Big Question' was used at the start of the topic.

It was very interesting to see some books with assessment tables at the back which showed evidence for assessment. We learned that a sample of books is taken for internal moderation.

Positive Comments

The children were interested in their tasks and were confident when talking to us about their work.

It was interesting to see the development in assessment and in the use of 'Big Questions'.

We could read written feedback from the teachers in the work books.

We saw many examples of extending and reinforcing learning through teacher questions. There was a range of interesting and effective approaches being used.

We could see that the children were able to use subject-specific language.

On a more general note, it was interesting to see the new area used for some SEND/sensory/nurture support. It was also useful for governors to see the recent improvements eg new windows, new hall doors to outside, recent redecoration. The school redecoration and new windows make the hall a brighter and more welcoming space. The corridors are smart. There were very well-ordered transitions between lessons and activities and behaviour was excellent.

Children were very polite and pleased to speak to us. We could see the happy and safe environment that the staff have provided.