

Stanbridge Lower School



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A Report from John Symonds (Chair of Governors) - "What have been our Successes?"

The governors and I have a duty of care to all the children who attend Stanbridge which we all execute with a sense of pride. It is important to remember our governors are all volunteers and give up their time offering both experience and advice to the school. It is a pleasure as Chair of Governors to thank them all for their hard work including you as parents for your support and the dedication of Miss Godwin and her staff. I am personally very proud to be Chair of Governors at Stanbridge so with some pride I now submit our Governors Report detailing progress across 2015.

Curriculum

- > Physical Education: Stanbridge achieved the Gold Sports Mark. Well done to Miss Waller and all the children for working so hard to ensure the children access as many school games competitions and as much physical activity as they can. The Sports Premium has enabled us to buy back into the School Sports Partnership in Leighton Buzzard where high quality activities, competitions and training is available to our school.
- > Introduction of New SEN Code of Practice: The new Code of Practice became law this year and we have been updating procedures and practice to include the new Education Health Care Plans. Mrs Date our SENCo retired and Miss Hughes has taken over the position.
- > Assessment: With the introduction of the new National Curriculum we saw assessment levels taken away and schools asked to devise and develop their own assessment systems. This is known as assessment without levels. The Governing Body has worked closely with Miss Godwin to ensure a smooth transition from one system to the next. The teachers are currently using Classroom Monitor to track progress and to ensure all gaps in learning are addressed.
- > Gardening: We used some of our school funds and some of the Sports Premium Funding to develop the gardening area. Sports benching was added to the field around the gardening area so it could be used for a dual purpose. Low and higher level gardening was added so that all children could be included into the curriculum. Flowers and vegetables have been grown across the year, much to our delight.
- > Cooking: We now employ a cookery teacher for Years 3 and 4. These lessons take part in the spring term and we use Pupil Premium funding to support the development of these essential skills. The Food for Life programme is followed and this is available to view on our website at www.stanbridge.beds.sch.uk



"We believe in our children"



- > ICT: New laptops with detachable tablets have been purchased for the children to use. The children are using these to access the new Coding curriculum. The hall now has an interactive TV for use across the school day and across the curriculum. Visualisers have been purchased for each classroom so that teachers can project images and written work from books up onto the interactive whiteboard. These are all being put to good use.

Premises

- > Accessibility: The local authority has improved accessibility by putting a pathway around the back of the school. This means that children have an exit route from all parts of the field and children with additional needs can exit the building more quickly. The large wall at the back of the building has been removed and the field gently sloped to improve safety.
- > The local authority put a new oil tank at the back of the building.
- > Parago - The governors agreed to purchase a new asset management programme which is actively being used by Mrs Coupland in the school office to register and maintain our inventory.

Staffing

- > Interventions for Children: We continue to recognise children need extra support in their learning whether it is to extend and challenge, or support those who need extra help. Interventions have been enhanced and extra staff have been employed to continue help and give support to individual children.

Governance

- > The governing body has been reconstituted. We have reorganized the governing body because of this many governors now find they have new titles and roles to play on the governing body.
- > Governor Mark: We continue to assess our strengths and areas for development following the Governor Mark criteria. This ensure we are able to support and develop our school strategically and ensure we are working as a group to a high standard constantly reviewing our practice and raising our performance as governors.

John Symonds
Chair of Governors
February 2016



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