

9th February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope that you will have seen that there have been a lot of changes at the school since we were visited by Ofsted last May. There have also been many changes which will probably not be so obvious to parents and carers or to your children. One of our responsibilities as Governors is to oversee those changes and an example of this took place on Tuesday when Governors spent time in the school looking at improvements in behaviour. We were delighted to see an emphasis on positive behaviour management. Classrooms were calm with children engaged in learning and it was clear that the caring culture being fostered in the school is resulting in improvements in the learning environment. It is easier to learn in a calm classroom where you are encouraged to take risks and where your individual needs are taken account of by adults and other children alike.

The school's new approach has been compiled into a policy entitled "Whole School Positive Behaviour Policy" and the following are a couple of extracts which are particular favourites of mine.

"Our two simple school rules are:

- *Be kind to everyone*
- *Treat the environment you are in and the equipment you use with care.*

These should be enough to cover all negative situations which might take place in school and are easy for children to relate to."

and

"Behaviour is a form of communication. We believe that behaviour is an act of communication at a level that is meaningful to the child. At all times we will ensure that we observe and consider the potential underlying causes of the behaviour a pupil is exhibiting so that we can best understand it before intervening."

Although these examples relate specifically to behaviour, I think they demonstrate the underlying ethos behind all of the work that is currently going on in school to create an environment that best allows our children to learn.

I must again take this opportunity to thank the acting leadership team of Mrs McCallion and Mrs Martin for the changes they are creating in school and to all of the staff for the hard work they are putting into implementing these changes.

I hope you have a lovely half term break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Graham Archer', with a horizontal line underneath.

Graham Archer

Chair of Governors