

Thank-you to those of you who braved a cold, wet and dark January evening to attend the Parents' Forum at which Mr Edwards-Grundy outlined plans for school development.

We hope you enjoy reading about the areas of school development that staff and governors are working on together; a summary of the priorities is attached to this newsletter.

At the Parents' Forum Mr Edwards-Grundy was asked what he considers to be the most significant challenge currently facing The Blake School. This is what he said...

The raised bar in terms of attainment is probably the biggest challenge.

As a team at The Blake School we are committed to providing a high quality, broad and balanced curriculum in which children develop a love of learning whilst still achieving their potential.

The school team are adhering closely to the new assessment guidance in what is a complex educational landscape.

Staff and governors are aware of the concerns raised by the current school data, but are confident that the high-quality teaching that is taking place across the school is enabling all children to make progress academically as well as developing emotionally and enjoying all the opportunities that the school offers to them.

You can read more about Mr Edwards-Grundy's answer and the other information from the Parents' Forum on the [school website](#).

One of the privileges and great pleasures of the Governor role is attending school performances and sharing in acts of collective worship. In the run up to Christmas Governors attended all of the performances and services that took place, both in school and in St Mary's, Cogges.

Governors were delighted to see so many parents enjoy the Christmas celebrations and to hear so many positive comments about all that your children are enjoying at The Blake School.

It is clear from their written feedback that the Governors thoroughly enjoyed all of the celebrations! Well done to everyone who took part and thank-you to the all the staff for their hard work.



"These events combined an absolutely right endorsement of excitement about Christmas fun, with a rich understanding of what lies behind the tinsel and the glitter"

Christian ethos

1. The school's Christian values will continue to define the culture of the school.
2. Develop 'Growth Mindset' in which the whole community develops a love of learning and believes that their abilities can be developed through dedication and hard work.

What will success look like? The whole school community will flourish in an environment which celebrates the uniqueness of all individuals living in community.

Leadership and Management (Senior School Leaders and Governors)

1. Role model high expectations for all staff and children in both teaching and the values of the school.
2. Make sure that the aims of this School Development Plan are clearly understood by the whole school community
3. Ensure that the school's safeguarding procedures are robust in every area and understood by the whole school community.

What will success look like? Teachers will be well supported and equipped to deliver a high standard of education in which attainment is raised and character is built.

Personal development, behaviour and welfare

1. The school's Positive Behaviour Policy will be updated to ensure consistency across classroom and playground behaviour.
2. Maintenance of the current effective inclusion practices to ensure that all children are able to learn.
3. Develop the Personal, Social and Health Education programme used within school to ensure that children are equipped to develop and mature in their learning and relationships.

What will success look like? Outstanding behaviour is driven by the whole school community having ownership of the school's values and positive behaviour procedures. The school remains a safe and happy environment.

Teaching, learning and assessment

1. Effective use of the school's assessment tool, Target Tracker including use of moderation opportunities.
2. Maintaining excellence across a broad and balanced curriculum.
3. Encouraging the professional development of staff and sharing good practice in order to raise confidence and competence.

What will success look like? The quality of teaching will be consistently good and outstanding. Children will understand their own learning journey.

Pupil Outcomes

1. Raise attainment in reading, writing, maths and science
2. Parents and carers will be fully informed about how to support their children's next learning steps
3. Children at risk of underachievement will be closely monitored and well supported
4. Children will be well prepared for national tests, whilst ensuring high levels of confidence are maintained.

What will success look like? Overall attainment across the school will be in line with, or above national standards.