



Governor Newsletter

June 2019



During May the clerk to the governors spent time in school, talking to groups of children about what it is like to be a pupil at The Blake School.

84 children, with six representatives from every class in the school, chatted, drew pictures and wrote to give governors a really good picture of life at The Blake School.

The children said "The teachers at The Blake School...

"are really helpful" "look after you"

"are great" "help us when we are stuck"

"push us to do well"

"make everything really fun"

"are really kind" "help us learn"

"understand you well"

It was clear to the governors that the children at The Blake School are always busy and love the wide range of experiences and rich curriculum to which they have access.

"Chilli challenges are always fun."

"At playtime there is lots to do."

"The chefs make lovely food."

"We are looked after."

"Everything is so fun."

"We have lots of clubs in school."

"I like doing the performances."

"Everyone is friendly and fair."

"Residentials are so fun."

"We learn new stuff everyday."

"It's good to meet new friends."

"We get to help people."

"I like making things in the craft area."

"You feel safe."

The children described The Blake School as...

"good" "wonderful"

"colourful" "nice" "fun"

"cool" "amazing" "awesome"

"lovely" "safe" "friendly"

"brilliant" "happy" "enjoyable"

"fantastic" "joyful"

If you wish to get in touch with the governors you can leave a message with the school office, or you can contact them via governors@blake.oxon.sch.uk

The children also talked about some of the things they can find harder in school and shared their ideas for what would make the school an even better place.

"The girls in Year 5/6 need a new water fountain."

"I wish we had bars to swing and flip on."

"I think we should have a gym in school."

"We need more hangers for coats and bags in the cloakrooms."

"We need another counsellor."

"I would like more school trips."

"We should change homework into school work, because weekends are for resting."

"There should be boys and girls sports tournaments."

"Could we have proper baseball bats?"

"I would add to the trim trail...swings...more equipment."

"We need a rules enforcer for when we play 4 square."

The governors will be talking to staff about these things and all the other ideas that the children shared, considering how they may be best addressed. Next year the governors will feed back to the children which of their ideas they have been able to address.

As part of the governors' intention to seek the views of all stakeholders regarding the school vision, the children were also asked to talk about they already value about the school / what makes it special and if they had ten words to describe the school what would they be.

The children came up with a whopping 73 different adjectives to describe The Blake School with almost half describing it as "fun". Other words in the top ten were amazing, friendly, kind, lovely, happy, safe, good, special and exciting.

When thinking about the things that make The Blake School special for them the children commented on the teachers, their friends, their learning, special events, the school's ethos, sports events, playtimes and behaviour.

Governors would like to encourage all parents/carers to take the opportunity to complete the [online response form](#) relating to the recrystallizing of the school's vision. Please pass the link on to your friends and family who may also wish to be part of this process.

Governors will be considering all the responses during their July meeting and will feed back to all stakeholders prior to the end of the academic year.

The governors would like to thank all the teachers for allowing the clerk to talk to children from their classes. Across the school the children showed a great capacity to reflect on the things that they would like to see improved. The children spoke honestly and openly, sharing happy memories and laughing together about the things that they have enjoyed over the past year. The clerk said: *"It was a joy and a privilege to listen to the children who, without exception, were a delight to spend time with."*

Committed to the care and education of your child within a Christian setting