

Sparsholt C. E. Primary School

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***High Achievement
for Everyone within a
Caring Christian School***

29 March 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Local Authority Visit Update

As we enter into the final key weeks of the Spring term, I thought it timely to give you a sense of how hard your children are working, how well the school is preparing them to meet their Age Related Expectations by the end of the school year and how much we appreciate your support and partnership at home.

In fact, just this week many of us have visited school to attend Parents Evenings and the Governors are being kept updated on how Year 2 & Year 6 are being prepared for their SATs in May '17.

Mrs McCarthy recently hosted the annual visit by our Hampshire County Council Leadership & Learning Partner (LLP). The visit ensures that external support and challenge is brought to school improvement and the support of the LLP is important and highly valued by the school.

The LLP visits also enable the local authority to assess schools across the region in order to prioritise resources at schools who need additional support. At the same time, high performing schools like Sparsholt, receive valuable feedback that we can build into the School Improvement Plan. The visit by our LLP was overwhelmingly positive and I wanted to ensure parents were aware of the feedback we received.

First she shared that Sparsholt children were enthusiastic and independent, testament to the rounded education they receive at our school. The children demonstrate strong behaviours for learning and feel valued, which is evidenced by the high attainment across the school. This culture of high expectations is balanced with an interesting integrated curriculum as well as extensive after school and sporting activities.

Secondly, she was able to see how within our mixed age classes there is a consistency of learning across year groups, thus ensuring expectations are maintained for all pupils. From early years where children are given "a strong start to their time in school" all the way up to KS2 where "indications are that progress for pupils is currently very strong".

Of course, there are areas we can improve on and Sparsholt's identification of continuing to improve progress by the end of KS2 in writing and maths was agreed as an action and is integral to our School Improvement Plan.

She concluded that Sparsholt is a low priority for the local authority right now. This is due to the continuing high achievements and progress of our pupils and Sparsholt's focus on self-improvement and its strong capacity for continued improvement. We will continue to update you on the school improvement priorities in the termly Governor newsletter.

I would like to congratulate the leadership team and all our valued staff for this excellent feedback. My thanks also to the Governing Body at Sparsholt School for their partnership with the school.

If you've found this interesting and would like to find out more, please either email me or join us. In the Spring Governors newsletter you will see that we have Parent Governor vacancies.

Thank you for your continued support,

Yours sincerely,

Victoria

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