

09/02/2024

### A few words from Mr Steve Smith – Chair of Governors

As governors we have worked hard over the last few years to improve our skills in challenging the Headteacher and being her 'critical friend' to support her and the team to raise standards across school. To do this, we have attended training run by the Local Authority for governors, we have been given specific information/training on assessment, data analysis, curriculum design, immersive classroom environments and much more by the Headteacher and Deputy Headteacher and some governors have met personally with Subject Leaders to gain an insight into their responsibilities. Governors have been encouraged by the Headteacher to come into school and to drop into classrooms to see what is happening daily. Governors have also been invited to INSET days and events through-out the year. This has all helped as governors to give us a more in-depth knowledge of the day-to-day running and management of the school. It has also enabled us to see what we hear at governors' meetings in practice and talk to the children and staff.

Annually we have a Governor training day where key staff talk to us about the curriculum and school. At the end of the day we come up with some strategic priorities which we focus on throughout the year.

### This year these are:

Strategic Priorities	Objectives	Indicators of change	Monitoring
EYFS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outdoor provision needs to replicate inside fully. It needs to be a text rich environment.</li><li>Happy Street needs to be extended into the outside garage.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Outdoor provision &amp; Happy Street enhanced and used every day.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FG</li></ul>
Curriculum Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>In ART &amp; Design Technology to ensure that the teachers are teaching the 6 step processes.</li><li>In History/Geography to develop the core sticky knowledge in all 4 strands: Empire, Civilisation, Peasantry, Parliament</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>Teachers have good subject knowledge in Art and DT and can teach the 6 step process which will improve the children's ART/DT.</li><li>Teachers subject knowledge enhanced and history/geography curriculum developed that incorporates all strands.</li><li>Assessment will also be more robust as the 'sticky knowledge' can be more easily assessed from EYFS – Year 6.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>FG</li></ul>

<b>Staff journey</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continue to look for ways to increase staffs work-life balance</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are happier and have good work life balance.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FG</li> </ul>
<b>Pupil behaviour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• to develop happy and healthy children</li> <li>• Continue to build pupil well-being and resilience</li> <li>• Continue to develop strong behaviour management systems</li> <li>• Continue to train and support staff to ensure effective management of challenging behaviour</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Children’s behaviour improved</li> <li>• Children happy and healthy across school</li> <li>• Healthy Schools award achieved</li> <li>• Children demonstrating resilience</li> <li>• Exclusion rate reduced</li> <li>• Increased pupil progress</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FG</li> </ul>
<b>Governors engagement and CPD</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide opportunity for governors to come into school regularly</li> <li>• Governors to meet with their curriculum leader on termly basis and feedback to Full Governors</li> <li>• Governors to attend events such as sports days, assemblies, nativities and Christmas dinner</li> <li>• Governors to access training through Governor services and Governor Net</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Review and monitor all data and results</li> <li>• Governors continue to challenge through Q&amp;A, book scrutiny, learning walks etc</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FG</li> </ul>
<b>Local community, parents &amp; stakeholder</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop and promote joint events, alongside existing school events.</li> <li>• Make contact with local businesses and colleges</li> <li>• Look at doing a project in the local community encouraging parents to become involved</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supporting our local community in carrying out a joint project</li> <li>• Promoting Kincaig Children in a positive light within the community</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• FG</li> </ul>

The governors are extremely delighted by the achievements made by the children this year and are thrilled to be ranked as the 7<sup>th</sup> top school in Lancashire. Mrs Appleby and her team have high expectations for the children socially, emotionally and academically and this shows in the strong results they achieve every year. I have witnessed this over and over again when I have visited school over the past years and I look forward to Friday's when I can see the fabulous photos from across the whole school on Facebook, of the children learning whilst having fun. It's a pleasure to see their smiling faces. Kinncraig Primary school continues to grow from strength to strength.

I know all the governors are extremely pleased with our Headteacher and her team of dedicated staff who work tirelessly to provide our children with the best education in order for them to reach and exceed their own individual potential.

I am very proud to be the Chair of Governors of such a forward-thinking school where in the words of our Headteacher 'Children are at the heart of everything we do'.

Mr Steve Smith  
Chair of Governors