

Sandal Castle (VA) Community  
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[www.sandalcastleprimary.co.uk](http://www.sandalcastleprimary.co.uk)



Primary School  
Hons PGCE NPQH

### Governing Body Newsletter Spring 1 2019

As a Governing Body we are very proud of the talented, dedicated staff at Sandal Castle Primary school who have had a very busy start to 2019. In our GB meetings we have been discussing all of the ways staff are not only continuing to develop their own knowledge and skills but have also been using their expertise to support other schools in Wakefield in areas like reading and PE. It is great to hear what a good reputation Sandal Castle has in the region, being recommended to other schools because of the fantastic work being done with the children.

The GB and staff are keen to ensure that the children are taught a broad and balanced curriculum that is not just centred on English and maths. This has always been the ethos of the school and is evident in the wide variety of opportunities and experiences the children are offered, from learning the violin to learning sign language. With so much content the children have to learn in the curriculum each year, the governors on the curriculum committee were given a presentation on how the foundation subjects like Geography and History are being taught in blocks to ensure children can learn about different topics in these areas in depth. They were also told how staff are working together to enhance their knowledge of assessment in each year for these subjects. In governor visits it was lovely to see how keen the children are to be involved in discussions in their lessons and to show off their brilliant work, as well as their usual good manners.

Tracking how every child is progressing in each of the curriculum areas throughout the year is vital to ensure they are supported to achieve their potential, whatever their level of ability. The Standards committee have been updated on how this is done for different year groups, including a new system being trialled by the Foundation Stage Team to gather evidence for portfolios for the Early Learning Goals for the children in Foundation Stage. We are always really impressed by the high standard of work the children are producing in their books and for displays.

Information shared with us from pupil voice shows just how much the children love learning and life at school. The GB have been hearing all about the exciting plans for lots of new activities for lunchtimes for the children to become involved in and are looking forward to seeing how they are used in the following months.

We hope you have a lovely half term break and thank you for your support for the children and the school.

Sandal Castle Primary Governing Body





