**Meeting of the Governing Body 12th January 2021**

The governors held a virtual meeting under the same arrangements as previous virtual meetings. The relevant school staff had ensured that all necessary papers were made available to every governor prior to the meeting.

**brief summary of key matters discussed**

**Head Teacher’s update including premises**

Nicola Davenport’s report was made available to the governors prior to the meeting.

The following summary provides information relating to key areas:

**Moral support**

ND thanked the governors for all their emails and messages of support via the Chair.

The teaching staff have received many positive messages from parents.

**Covid**

Pupil and Parents – ND has issued a reminder to parents today (12th January) advising that if any member of the household has Covid symptoms they should follow Covid procedures.

There has been two possible Covid cases at the school, teachers were tested and the results were negative.

ND has met with any staff who feel they are vulnerable. Staff know if they have any concerns they can speak to ND, EP or RC and ND will be setting up a well-being meeting for anyone who wishes to attend once a week via Zoom.

**Resources for pupils accessing the internet**

A parent has donated 21 Chromebooks to the school. He is very impressed with Leechpool and the way they have dealt with the current situation. He will source the Chromebooks.

DFE allocated laptops to schools are based on pupil premium numbers. In September, EP was advised of an allocation of 4 laptops for the school; EP has re-applied in January and has secured 22 Chromebooks for the school.

**Provision for children of key workers**

There are four school critical worker learning hubs, Reception, years 1 & 2, years 3 & 4 and years 5 & 6.

ND has looked at the children who attended during the last lockdown and if they still required spaces, they have come into school. Then ND has looked at families where situations have changed.

SC is working with the year 5/6 critical workers. SC asked if she could come into school instead of being part of the online learning at home. The children are following all the guidelines on handwashing and social distancing and all feel very safe.

ML is working in KS1, some teachers are wearing visors, and windows are open for ventilation. All staff feel safe.

The children in school have a structured day, the videos prepared by teachers for home learning (see below) can be played at school through interactive whiteboards in class and can be used for class work or (using headphones) for individual learning.

**Arrangements to deliver learning for the foreseeable future**

The school opened after the Christmas holiday on Monday 4th January. After the announcements of Monday evening, the school closed on Tuesday to organise online learning and staffing arrangements. The school reopened on Wednesday 6th January.

A curriculum newsletter was issued, on 5th January giving parents details of remote learning arrangements together with a copy of the remote learning policy; this explains the school’s expectations of children and teachers.

The teachers of each year group come in one day a week to do planning and phone children in their class. The Leadership meet on a Friday morning at 8am.

The quality of remote teaching is good and will improve over the next few weeks. The aim is to ensure that it is of the same standard as that which would be expected were all the children in school. To this end, the school has adopted Loom, in conjunction with Google Classroom. Pre-recorded lessons via Loom allow the child to watch, pause and replay the lesson. Each video lesson is 5 to 10 minutes long but designed to provide and support a child for a 45 min to 1-hour lesson. RC confirmed all the work being developed is age related.

Teachers are monitoring children who are sending work in and are calling those who are not engaging. Staff are asking families if they have access to a laptop, whether they need more paper and how school can help etc. EP advised that if families have an X Box or PS4, they can access google classrooms through these devices.

Governors concluded that ND and her team are doing an amazing job and offered any additional help they could provide.

**Pupil Assessment**

The school has made the decision to move to a new assessment system. As a result, some of the data will be presented slightly differently. The reason for this, RC advised, is that it is difficult to measure a child’s progress over a short period of time. The new system, which will be employed throughout the school, views progress over a whole school year. RC will agree with JB a format for presenting key assessment to governors.

**Any other business**

The new website will go live at February half term.

In the autumn term, the children raised £7000; £2000 has been given to charity. The school has received £500 match funding as well from Legal and General and that money will be used on outside play equipment.

VW asked about forward planning if the current situation continues beyond February half term. There are no SATs this year and that is why the children’s work and assessments are very important to ensure the children get the best results possible for moving onto secondary school.

GM advised the school has received an allotment plot. ND is getting quotes to replace the gate from school to the allotment, there may be funding from the parish council. Year 5 & 6 are going over next week to get started.

Proposed New Staff Room and Library – EP will move into the yellow room with a door onto a small courtyard. The current staff room will be knocked through into EP’s old office. A lantern roof will be put over the courtyard and this will become the library. JA and KJ will look at the finance for this project; SC will be a staff voice with ND and SH.

The next meeting of the Governing Body, which will also be a virtual meeting, will take place on 2nd February, 2021.

Details of the members of the school’s Governing Body can be found at <https://www.leechpoolprimaryschool.co.uk/governor-profiles>

Parents with children currently at the school are welcome to contact governors with questions or general feedback. Please note that parents should always contact the school directly with any concerns.

Initials of governors and any other individuals ‘in attendance’ at this meeting are as follows:

SH – Stephen Humphreys – Chair of Governors

ND (or, ‘the head’) – Nicola Davenport, Head Teacher of Leechpool School.

JA – John Adams – Joint Lead for Finance

JB – John Bentley – Vice Chair of Governors and Lead for Safeguarding

DB – Derick Bostridge – Lead for Public Relations

RC – Robert Cooper – Assistant Head – Curriculum and Achievement (in attendance)

SC – Sarah Cullern – Enrichment Leader and subject leader for Modern Foreign Languages

JD – Jayne Dowell – Clerk to the governors

FF – Fiona Franklin – Lead for SEND

KJ – Katie Jesse – Joint Lead for Finance

ML – Michel Letley – Curriculum and School Liaison Lead (HLTA);  Premises/Health & Safety

GM – Gary Marlow – Lead for PE and Sports Premium

EP – Emma Payne – Assistant Head - Inclusion and Achievement; SENCO (in attendance)

SP– Sara Page – Lead for Parent Liaison

EP – Emma Payne – Assistant Head - Inclusion and Achievement; SENCO

VW – Vinod Wagjiani – Lead for Internet Safety

Apologies were received from Olivia Ellery – Lead for Human Resources