

Home Farm Primary School

Home Farm Primary School Governor Visit Report

Name:	Lisa Humphreys
Date of Visit:	Tuesday 5 th May 2015
Focus of Visit (linked to SDP):	To view and gain a better understanding of EYFS at Home Farm. To gain the children's thoughts about school.
Classes / staff visited:	Zoe Wentworth and Class R

Summary of activities e.g. observing classes, talking to staff and pupils, looking at resources, had lunch, etc.:

Discussion with Zoe following time spent with the children on the carpet area in class, in the playground and swimming. Looked at Learning Journeys, Art Folders, Busy Bee books and Maths and English folders.

What I have learned as result of my visit e.g new understanding, evidence of reports to committee, observing material needs of school.

Trying something new can sometimes be a little nerve racking.....not for Class R at Home Farm! I was with them for their first swimming session at school and they responded maturely to the new situation. Their bubble of excitement didn't distract them from the important instructions about changing room rules that they'd been given in class (just for the record, underwear **must** to be hung on the hook last as it's the first thing you'll need when getting dressed.....so I was informed.....) nor did it prevent them from listening carefully to the swimming instructor once poolside, although seeing friends in swimming hats and goggles for the first time did add to it! Group and individual praise and encouragement were given by the adults present to support the children in each group through the sessions. Great independence was demonstrated by the children.

The children then spent time in the playground where they are able to choose the activities they participate in- several of us played a friendly game of hopscotch!

Back in the class room and on the carpet area I got to ask some of the children, 'What do you like about school?' The responses were as follows:

"Homework"

"Swimming" (several said this)

"Swimming and putting my head under"

"Writing"

"Lots of writing"

"Wearing a school uniform and a red tie"

"Playing a lot"

The children spoke with confidence and enthusiasm.

I then got the opportunity to speak with Zoe.

She talked about the typical daily routine which, although is play based, becomes more formal as the year progresses to meet the children's developing skills and maturity. One example of this is the change of snack from all sitting inside together at the start of the year to now the children taking a piece of fruit outside and eating it in the playground.

We looked through Learning Journeys which depict the children's individual Class R school experiences where their efforts and achievements are recorded and shared between the school, parents and children. The evidence includes photographs, written/typed observations from teachers and Isa, actual work and comments from parents. The recent purchase of two Ipads now allow staff to dictate their observations and have them printed straight out- thus saving time on this so more focus can be on the children.

During the school day the children have the time to participate in both child lead and adult focus activities and use the inside and out, phonics takes place in ability groups as do maths activities.

I also got to see the Busy Bee Books in which the children, when developmentally ready, participate in maths, English and topic work. The children also have Art folders.

The evidence collected enables the teachers to decide if the children have met the Early Learning Goals across all areas of the curriculum.

Comments about the focus / discussions arising / conclusion:

A happy and secure environment in which the youngest of the Home Farm family are encouraged and supported individually, to be the best they can be. Thank you for your time and a lovely afternoon.

Home Farm Primary School

Signed: Lisa Humphreys..... (Governor)

Signed (Headteacher / Subject Leader)