



Dear families and friends of Roselands,

The Governing Board at Roselands continue to focus on governance through our integral role as critical friends, supporting and challenging the school.

Some of our duties are statutory but these are supplemented by meetings and learning walks from which minutes or governor feedback reports are always completed. We oversee the strategic operation of the school so it is important that we have a clear, first hand understanding of how school works and how children are learning so that we can monitor progress from Reception through to Year 6.

One of the ways we monitor this is by visiting school to see what is happening for ourselves.

Our most recent learning walk took place on Friday February 23<sup>rd</sup> 2018 and focused on two objectives, Pupil Progress and Safeguarding. Improving progress in maths is an area identified as a priority in the school development plan 2017-2018 and as such an area that governors will continue to monitor closely this year.

We started the day at a creativity themed whole school assembly where achievement and progress were shared and celebrated. We also saw democracy in action as pupils voted for those standing for election to their new pupil council.

We visited classes across all key stages observing a variety of lessons, maths, phonics, science, literacy and PE. We spoke to pupils about their learning and to staff about planning, the curriculum and teaching. The SEND link governor also spent time with staff as they reviewed an Education and Health Care Plan. Year 6 pupils kept us company during the lunch break and told us all about their learning, their friends and about life at Roselands.

Here are some comments from governors.

“Pupils were engaged with the topic, their teacher and working with each other to show understanding.”

“Spelling test increased understanding of the meanings of words as well as spelling.”

“As the session went on better understanding of the topic was apparent.”

“Although it was a game and over a very short time frame, it was possible to see improvement in understanding as pupils went up and down the numbers adding or subtracting half each time.”

“Safeguarding was a priority throughout.”

“Safeguarding was considered throughout the lesson and observed through staff supervision and pupil response to teacher instructions.”

During the day governors had a chance to chat with Ms Carson and other SLT members about their findings and how well the school is doing particularly in areas highlighted as priorities in the school development plan.

Following our learning walk we always write a report of our findings identifying the key issues, actions and asking questions, all of which will be discussed at our next full governing board meeting.

Governors appreciated full access to the school timetable and classes and have thanked Ms Carson and her staff for hosting us. We are also grateful to our Cook Mrs Fagan and her team for our tasty Friday Favourites lunch.

If you would like to discuss anything in this newsletter or have any questions for governors please don't hesitate to contact us at [chairgov@roselands.herts.sch.uk](mailto:chairgov@roselands.herts.sch.uk) or leave a message for us at school.