**Chollerton Church of England Aided First School**

**Governor’s Report**

**Date of visit: Monday 22nd May 2023**

**Focus of visit: Teaching and Learning - Literacy**

**Overview**

Chollerton has two classes: Class 1 – reception to Year 1, which has 16 pupils, taught by Hazel Davey and Class 2: Y2 – Y4, with 24 pupils, taught by Glenda Glenwright

**Class Support**

Sheena Murray is an HLTA and works closely with Y2, Sharon Nichols is a TA and supports Y2 and covers PPA, Georgina Ritson is a TA working closely with reception and Y1, Fritha Vallista offers 27 hours worth of support and Ali Conley has 19.5 hours with child with EHCP (Educational Health Care Plan)

**Class 1**

* Within Class 1, there is one child who has an EHCP and across the school, three children have been identified has having dyslexia. GG can identify and assess pupils with dyslexia. This child has been added to the school SEN register and will be entitled to access arrangements when assessment points arise.
* One child in reception is receiving speech and language therapy.
* In class, children complete brain gym exercises at the start of each day and on a Monday they are introduced to the word of the week as well as weekly spellings.
* Teacher models how to use the word of the week and children will use within their sentence work.
* Topics are taught through the class book and tasks are differentiated accordingly for ability.
* ***Twinkl*** phonics are used which allows a more personalised approach for each child to master these sounds.
* Spelling and correction of misplaced letters are identified using a dot and a tick so that pupils can visually see where they have made an error in order to correct.

**Class 2**

* **2 boys and 8 girls in Y2**
* **3 boys and 7 girls in Y3 (2 with SPLD – dyslexia)**
* **1 boy and 3 girls in Y4**
* Within Class 2, children focus on developing literacy skills each morning: spellings and handwriting.
* Year 2 children work with SM (HLTA) and are prepared thoroughly for the Y2 SATs
* Pupils in each of the different year groups use the class novel and ***PLAZOOM*** for their units of work and this focus or topic is reinforced across the curriculum.
* Writing is a particular strength and there was strong evidence of the learning journey for final written pieces
* Through scrutiny of books, there was strong evidence of progress over time and children’s extended writing is developed extensively by Y4.
* Children are encouraged to self- assess their work for improvements and feedback from GG is very thorough and well detailed. Development of the “Editor’s Office” has encouraged a sense of pride in their own self-assessment. Children are very familiar with the marking code (S, G, P – spelling, grammar, punctuation)
* GG is also working towards demonstrating whole class feedback so children can self-edit.
* Spelling: Children follow the No Nonsense spelling scheme as well as learning the statutory words placed in their spelling journal. This is differentiated for pupils with SPLD (dyslexia or other barriers to learning)

**READING ACROSS THE SCHOOL**

* Children complete the NGFR reading test in the spring/ summer term in order to assess individual reading age.
* Books are banded in order to be tailored to each child.
* English curriculum is taught through literature.
* Strong emphasis on the importance of phonics to develop reading skills

**ENRICHMENT ACTIVITIES**

* Class 2 received a virtual lesson in sign language
* Anna English continues to monitor and care for the library
* Children who struggle to read with confidence, read to a dog brought into school.
* On World Book Day – author, Nicola Wood visited school to talk to children about her book Compost the Cat.
* Daria Kulesh visited school to talk about Russian folklore, music and songs.
* Children also visited the Hexham Book Festival to listen to a selection of authors.

**FOCUS OF NEXT VISIT (DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)**

* K. Coulson to visit school in person and observe lessons, talk to pupils and to assess progress for academic year 2022-23.
* Focus on reading as this is a national priority, post COVID.

Thank you for allowing me to visit Chollerton, I always love seeing what the children are doing. I particularly enjoyed seeing the work they have done in their books – they obviously take great pride in their work and the school is always a warm and vibrant place.

Kirsten Coulson