



Thurlstone Primary School

Governor Newsletter

Mr Tim Orr is our link governor for the curriculum. Today (12/10/2022) he visited the school to talk to me about all things to do with the curriculum: the wider curriculum; curriculum enrichment and core subjects such as writing. Tim stayed for the whole morning and during that time he joined me on playground duty, visited classrooms and witnessed the transition between playtime and lessons. This is what he had to say about his visit...

I visited school as part of my curriculum link governor role to see how the curriculum is delivered at Thurlstone. I was really impressed by the thought that goes into planning what is taught across all the subjects and how this is developed as the children progress through school. I saw that pupils found their lessons interesting, inspiring and relevant, could remember and apply their learning and there was a robust process in place to check this.



I was struck by the scale of the efforts the school makes to enrich and broaden the curriculum. In addition to all the after school activities, on the day I visited, dental nurses were talking to children in reception about healthy foods and teeth brushing. I also learnt about a really popular, child-led library club at lunchtime and the reading suitcase scheme to encourage reading for pleasure. It was clear that a lot of time, energy and passion goes into enthusing the children, making learning exciting and catering for different learning styles and preferences.

It was also really heartening to see how well behaved, engaged and polite the children at Thurlstone are. During my visit, several children approached Mrs Gibbins with suggestions for projects such as a litter pick on the school field. It is clear that pupils are encouraged and supported to develop their own interests with initiatives such as the pupil wellbeing ambassadors and sport's council.

Our next focused Governor visit will be in November when Nicky Shaw, our Chair of Governors, will be coming into school in her capacity as safeguarding governor. She will review our processes and record keeping systems and her report will be shared with you in the next edition of our Governor Newsletter!