



Langton Primary School
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Dear parents,

We would like to welcome you back for a new school year, especially those who are new to Langton and look forward to another good year.

Term has started with a baptism of fire for Mrs Ray and her team with Ofsted coming in to inspect the school during Week 3. This is the first week that Ofsted are inspecting schools this term and, as it is under a new framework, which will add to the challenge. Mrs Ray and her staff have made an impressive start this term and so there was no great panic when we got 'the call', just a few last minute checks to ensure everything was ready. I'm sure your children will do us proud and we hope the inspector will be impressed with all the good things which James started and which we are continuing to develop already this term.

Of course, we know there are still areas we can improve and lots of initiatives we are keen to start and grow. Mrs Ray has already started work on her 'School Development Plan' for the year which has been shared with governors and builds on the work done last year.

The governors and Mr McGann set out a three year strategic plan which is broken down by year and term outlining what will be done and the impact it will have for the children. This is one of the ways governors hold the school to account. When Ofsted have given us their recommendations these will be fed into the plan which will form the basis for performance management objectives for all staff and set the priorities for the year.

Although preparations for the Ofsted inspection were in full swing last Wednesday, the governors held their first meeting that evening as planned. Stuart Simpson was unanimously re-elected as chair. We have decided to keep our committees and responsibilities as they were last year as it proved an effective way of working.

Being the first meeting of the school year there was the annual administration to be done, approving policies, agreeing levels of delegation within school, etc.

Mrs Laverack gave us an excellent presentation on the work she has been doing to promote the acceleration of reading and attainment at KS2. This was identified in 2013 as a key action



Head teacher: Mrs Rachel Ray

Chair of Governors: Mr Stuart Simpson

for school. After identifying strengths and weaknesses, and studying the data on progress and attainment, she put in place a number of initiatives across school. This work is still on-going, but the benefit of new colour coding of books for free readers, new books, more robust tracking along with other initiatives can clearly be seen in our improved results. The new library has become a focal point in the school now and is well used. Thank you Mrs Laverack!

With your ideas and help, we started some good work on marketing the school last year. However, we are agreed that the school has more urgent priorities this term, but will revisit at a later meeting once all the new staff have had time to settle in.

We will of course continue to celebrate our successes both in school and the wider community. Work on the website will continue and our priority here is to make sure that all the new regulatory information is in place.

You have already received a number of communications from school, including information on the curriculum, the support we continue to get from Norton College and the first newsletter. We hope you have found them useful. We look forward to seeing you at the Head Teacher Forum. The governors are also planning to hold another meeting to update you on our application to join the Multi Academy Trust, but have decided to postpone this until we get the Ofsted report so that you can discuss that too.

Thank you to the parents and children who helped with bag-packing at Morrisons. The money enables us to enrich the children's experience in school even further.

Thank you again for all your continued support. We always welcome your ideas and look forward to working with you again this year.

The Langton Governing Body