

## FGB reflections on time spent completing a learning walk across the whole school

November 2024

Sue	<p>I did my learning walk earlier this week and was very impressed with what I saw. I saw all the classes but one, who were in the hall for a lesson about greek battle tactics, and mostly in the right order except the tree frogs who were out at forest school when I first tried to visit. Once I did get to see them I thought it was a brilliant space for them and that the staff were doing a fantastic job. We are very lucky to have the space and the staff knowledge/skills to be able to have a facility like this.</p> <p>All of the classes were working very well and any low level disruption was dealt with very quickly and effectively by the staff. I must also give a special mention to the two foundation classes - we certainly didn't get videos and dancing to start the lessons when I was at school - although that may have been partly because video didn't exist in those days! The enthusiasm of all the staff in those two rooms had a very positive effect on the children and it was so lovely to watch them.</p>
Kelly	<p>I had a lovely morning observing all of the classes. There was such a variety of lessons going on and the children were engaged with all of them throughout the school (FS-Yr6). Teachers were supportive and enthusiastic in all lessons and demonstrated their expertise through their use of subject specific language, subtle uses of behaviour management and their effective use of questioning.</p> <p>Many of the lessons I saw connected to reading which has been a strength in our school for many years and it was clear to see the progression throughout the school from the early teaching of phonics (using the new scheme) in year 1, to VIPERS in KS2. Children were being taught the necessary skills needed.</p> <p>In many of the classes there was a reminder for the children to use endurance when tasks became tricky and it was made clear that mistakes were there to be made as we learn from them.</p>
Dave	<p><i>Initial email:</i></p> <p><i>Just a quick note today how valuable I found the learning walk yesterday morning.</i></p> <p><i>I was welcomed by all the staff and children in the classes that had been suggested.</i></p> <p><i>I found the Golden Stars Assembly particularly helpful as the classrooms were obviously empty! So many of the teachers' written comments for the children fell within the PSHE requirements of the DfE.</i></p> <p><i>Three hours went by almost too quickly.</i></p>
Lorraine	<p><i>Initial email:</i></p> <p><i>Wanted to say how lovely the learning walk was today all the children were so on task and well behaved it made me really proud of them.</i></p> <p><i>Special mention to the treefrogs! The children were such pleasure to meet and in what I could imagine would be a challenging environment to meet all their needs, the vibes of the room was so calm and safe and very much felt like a St Botolph's class who had been there forever.</i></p> <p><i>What really stood out to me was the focus and attention of the children, it didn't matter</i></p>

	<p>which class I visited they were all engaged with their tasks. Also the children appeared comfortable and confident to have a go (or answer a question). Some of the children (mostly in KS1) wanted to show me their work and tell me what they were doing and you could see that they were so proud of what they had done.</p> <p>When walking through the school, if there was a child near a door they would open it for me and smile, there was just such an atmosphere within the school of looking after each other and helping where you can. I also saw this with year 5/6 when they were helping each other know what to do and say in the assembly rehearsal, they were all supporting and encouraging each other.</p> <p>A stand out moment was In FS they were creating their cauliflower card by having their feet painted and when it was not their turn they had activity stations. All of the children were moving so calmly between the stations and really focussing on their task even though you could tell they were excited to be painting their feet, they did not let behaviour slip and were waiting their turn (which for children so young I thought was amazing!!!)</p>
Danielle	<p>I started off intending to spend the morning having a quick trip around the school. Having spent almost an hour with tree frogs, I soon realised it was going to end up being a whole day!</p> <p>In tree frogs I observed 2 groups doing their attention bucket sessions. It was lovely to see how well the children engaged with the activity and had a good understanding of how the session worked and what was expected of them. It was also nice to see the difference between the two groups and although the concept was the same the progression was evident.</p> <p>Visiting each class in turn it was great to see the progression between the different year groups and see a small snapshot of the day.</p> <p>There was a definite theme of attentiveness and enthusiasm for learning across the whole school, no matter which lesson or year group.</p> <p>Throughout the day I saw children in year 3/4 taking opportunities to read independently whilst waiting classmates to join them for the next lesson. I was met with happy, relaxed children who were keen to demonstrate their phonics knowledge and writing skills in FS. Children in year 1 and 2 were keen to engage and try to answer questions and weren't afraid of getting the answer wrong.</p> <p>Right at the end of the day I saw 2 groups of 5/6 children taking part in a dance session for PE and seeing how engaged all children were was fantastic. Even groups of slightly shy boys were still keen to display their dance routines at the end of the session.</p> <p>Special mention to Arran Jackson who was teaching a recorder lesson to a class of year 5/6, the behaviour in the class was fantastic and any low level disruption/over enthusiastic blowing was dealt with in a firm but kind way and I could see the children were really enjoying the session. They were all keen to demonstrate what they had already learnt of the music theory as well as demonstrating a few notes.</p> <p>Overall it was a lovely day and yet again a pleasure to see how well the children work and engage throughout the day.</p>
Angela	<p>I had a lovely morning!</p> <p>Started in Tree frogs which I was very excited about seeing. I observed 2 sets of children both at differing stages of ability complete the attention bucket exercise. The latter group was at an early stage of the process, but I was amazed how they really were engaged and attention was held. One little boy was having a bit of an outburst initially it was nice to see him quickly adapt to the attention bucket once he had calmed down a little bit.</p> <p>I moved onto the Parrots and Limas in foundation. Always impressed by behaviour in</p>

	<p>foundation, as the children are so young. Parrots were reading and doing actions whilst sounding out.</p> <p>It was nice to meet Mrs Ebbs and later Miss Powell as new additions to the school. I visited Phonics lessons with year 1 Orangutang's and Monkeys. The majority of children were engaged, any that became distracted, not listening or fully taking part in actions were identified promptly by the teachers.</p> <p>Visited the Jellyfish who were writing sentences related to James Bird. They were definitely the most energised class, Miss Lawley set them off with a Supermover before they started!</p> <p>Moving upstairs for years 3 and 4 were in Maths, I found it interesting to see the variation between classes, so I sat in with Mrs Pritchett's Giraffe's class who were doing multiplication. There were a couple of tumbleweed moments when she was asking questions of the children, but to be fair it was Friday, right before lunch and the task was not the easiest. Miss Tarpey in Zebras was doing times tables off the board and Miss Cockerill was doing counters exercises. To be honest I just popped my head in those classes to see the comparison. I'm guessing Miss Cockerill had year 3's. Mrs Pritchett and Miss Tarpey were year 4 children?</p> <p>I popped across to the year 5/6 side, but majority of class were out at PE. I ended up seeing Olivia deliver part of an Intervention with 3 pupils Esme, Lyra and Elodie. This was really good to see all 3 girls were intently listening and it seemed really calm. It was great to see the pupils supported on recap on strategies that will assist them in their forthcoming SATS.</p> <p>Thanks to all involved in making it such a lovely visit</p> <p>I also popped my head in assembly, also great to see the Christian values on the screen!</p>
Emily & Michelle	<p>I had a great visit on Friday with Michelle.</p> <p>We spent 2 hours walking around the school and went into pretty much all the classrooms. Despite Friday afternoons not always being the most focussed time of the week I enjoy seeing the school 'in action' on a learning walk as classes move from varied lessons into Golden Time.</p> <p>We observed FS stage talk to each other and share views about the school values compassion and endurance, year 1 were very enthusiastic to share their work on remembrance poppies and three of the year 3 and 4 classes learning songs for their Christmas productions.</p> <p>We also visited the Tree Frogs which was great to see this new environment and hear how the children were settling in (we even got a cuddle from one child) as well as meeting some children in 3/4 who have their own breakout reward time at the end of each day and better understand how our SEND children are supported.</p> <p>Transition to Golden Time was smooth and it was great to be able to see the children engaging in more creative activities such as games in the library, slime making, firework artwork and a drama class. Children were engaged, happy and those with support staff appeared on track with the lesson activity. Children were eager to talk to us about what they were doing and behaviour was not an issue during our time in school.</p>