

Subject: Science

Governor: Rob MacKenna

Date: 13/6/18

Focus of Learning Walk	To gain an understanding of science teaching and learning processes within the school and to observe a science lesson in progress.
Relevant information read prior to Learning Walk	
Background	
Method	I met with Miss Weston and we discussed how science is being taught both within the school and also off-site as part of the forest school programme. We viewed and discussed some of the written work completed by pupils from different year groups. I was then able to spend time in a science lesson with Mrs Pattinson and years 5&6, observing the lesson and speaking to pupils about what they had learnt.
Observations	<p>The start of the lesson was spent finishing writing up a practical session that had taken place the previous week, involving dissolving solids in liquids of various temperatures. Pupils filled out an investigation sheet recording what they had done, their observations and were challenged to come up with some real world examples of what they had learnt about. The class worked well on this exercise but required some encouragement to make a connection between the experiment they had conducted in class and examples of where the principal could be seen/used in everyday life.</p> <p>The remainder of the lesson was spent conducting and recording the process of making <i>Alien Soup</i> and then separating out the individual ingredients using scientific principles that they had learnt about. The class worked in small groups to plan, undertake and record their experiments. They were all able to demonstrate the use of magnetics and filtration and discuss the process of distillation, to separate metal objects, rice, sand and salt that had been mixed with water. They were able to plan and undertake the experiment and clean up afterwards with guidance and input from Mrs Pattinson when required. All of the groups worked well through the exercise and there was good evidence of peer to peer learning.</p> <p>I spoke with a number of pupils during the lesson and they were all able to tell me about science topics that they had found interesting. They took pride in showing me their written work and talked about what they had learnt in previous lessons.</p>

Link to School Development Plan	
Conclusion	It was really encouraging to see the creative way in which science is being taught and how the pupils are engaging with it and with each other during lesson time.
Recommendations	Ensure there is continued emphasis on pupils understanding the practical application of the scientific concepts being studied. The recording process was let down by an IT problem – check appropriate facilities are available.