



29th November 2013

Dear Parents and Carers

You will have been aware that the Ofsted inspection team visited school on the 12th and 13th of November. The formal checking process is now complete and we have been advised that we are able to release the report to you. We are absolutely delighted to be able to do so.

Some quotes
from our Ofsted
report....

Significantly more pupils than nationally exceed the level expected for their age in reading, writing and mathematics

The highly skilled teaching assistants who work with these pupils make an important contribution to their good learning

Pupils achieve well during their time in the Early Years Foundation Stage and this results in above-average attainment by the time they enter year 1

There are positive relationships between teachers and pupils in lessons so pupils feel safe and confident to ask for help

The Inspection was carried out under the new framework for inspections that was published 1st September 2013 and so was inspected differently to our last Ofsted Inspection in June 2009. (Since October 2011 the Ofsted framework against which schools are judged has been changed 3 times, each change 'raising the bar'). The new OfSTED inspection framework is tougher and the criteria for judgements much tighter.

The inspection team judged that overall Banks Road Infant and Nursery School is a **good** school.

The report recognises that good teaching was seen across the school during the inspection. All members of staff are committed to strive to consistently good and outstanding teaching. *"Teaching is good across the school and this enables all pupils to learn well and make good progress."* *"The curriculum is interesting and engaging for pupils, and results in good attitudes to learning being shown by pupils".*

The inspection team were complimentary regarding the positive attitude of the children at the school. *"Pupils have a positive attitude to school, enjoy their lessons and get on well together".*

The inspection team recognised that the school's action plan has already identified areas for development which take time to have an impact. In all of the inspectors' comments there was nothing we did not know about and were not already addressing in our plans. *"Governors have high aspirations for the school"*. There is an acknowledgement within the report that major positive changes have taken place in the school following the appointment of the new Head teacher in September 2013. *"The new headteacher has communicated her vision and high expectations to the staff and governors."*

We would like to thank all parents who took the time to complete the survey on Parent View and those parents who spoke to the inspection team. This helped the inspectors to have a good understanding of our school. *"Parents have a very positive view of the school".*

More quotes
from our
Ofsted report

The school provides a safe environment for its pupils.... Parents, too, agree that there is a high level of care and emphasis on safety given by the school.

Governors have a good understanding of the schools' strengths and areas for development.

Pupils' behaviour is good, both in lessons and around school

Parents have a very positive view of the school.

Pupils' spiritual, social, moral and cultural development is promoted well.

Covering letter to parents re: Ofsted Report November 2013

Quote from Mrs Clemens

*"I am passionate about improving all aspects of our teaching and learning to make sure that all our children have the best possible opportunities to be challenged and excel across all areas. I welcome the challenge of higher expectations, and all of us at Banks Road would agree that striving for ever higher standards absolutely encapsulates what we are about. Alongside the support of the governing body, the staff and the parents we will continue to further develop and improve the education provided for your children, and I am very confident we will continue to go from strength to strength. I am delighted not just for myself and all the staff who put so much of their lives into doing their best for the children of the school but also for our Governing Body, led by Andy Hitchcock, who all give freely of vast amounts of their time to challenge and support the leadership teams of the school to ensure that the children have the best learning experience possible. It has been a real team effort with everybody playing their part in getting the school to **GOOD** and I would like to thank every member of the school team for their contribution but especially the teaching staff and then the teaching assistants for the way in which they have responded to everything that has been asked of them since I took post as Head teacher in September.*

I am also delighted for the entire parent community and the community of Toton and I once again thank you for the productive partnership that exists between you and the school and for the challenge, support and energy that you bring to that partnership. It would be thoughtless of me to not recognise the excellent part that your children played in the inspection and you should feel very proud of them for the manner in which they conducted themselves.

Our aim is to move to an Outstanding school by the time of the next inspection and we will all start that journey from today. I am excited and energised by that challenge and I feel confident that it is achievable. I look forward to making the journey with you."

Carole Clemens

Finally, the Governing Body offer congratulations to the staff for their hard work and dedication, coupled with the hard work of the pupils, this Ofsted result reflects the effort everyone has put in.

On behalf of the Governing Body



Andy Hitchcock (Chair of Governing Body)