

18th July 24

Re: End of Term Reflection- You said, we did!

Dear Parents,

As we close the chapter on this academic year, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the collective achievements we have celebrated as a school community. It is with great pleasure that I share with you the successes that have marked this year as a significant milestone in our school's history.

Together, we have not only met but exceeded our goals, culminating in a very successful Ofsted inspection that rated us as 'good with outstanding features.' This recognition is a reflection of our shared commitment to excellence in education.

Moreover, our church inspection echoed this sentiment, further solidifying our school's reputation for nurturing not only the minds but also the spirits of our children. These accolades are not just ours to claim but belong to each one of you, for it is your support, engagement, and belief in our vision that have brought these accomplishments to fruition.

In addition, we have seen our best set of assessment data across school in the last the few years, a testament to how hard staff are working for our children and also the commitment of our children in wanting to be the best they can be by 'living life in all its fullness'.

As we look back on the year, let us celebrate the academic achievements, the personal growth of our children, and the vibrant community events that have brought us closer. Your involvement has been pivotal in creating an enriching environment where our children can flourish.

In addition, to working on our Ofsted priority areas from November 21, which we achieved all of, we have continued to listen to parent feedback, the voice of our children and staff to ensure other aspects of school life has improved.

A summary of changes this year:

- In September, we launched our new houses and children were all allocated a house to represent. Children are now awarded house points along with other rewards.
- Lunchtime provision lacked structure and fun engagement for the children. Opal was launched at the start of the academic year, and this has ensured children have a variety of fun engaging activities to take part in at lunch. From sport, art, dressing up, construction, den building and lots more. Children have enjoyed our first year of Opal and are reaping the benefits.
- Teaching Assistants now oversee lunchtimes, which has improved behaviour and relationships with children as staff know children well.
- We invited parents into school to discuss how we can improve communication. This is something that comes up continually. However, we listened to feedback and now offer class newsletters- with key information for each class (to save parents time in having to read all the other dates on the main newsletter that are not relevant to their child) and send out a weekly communication reminder email on a Sunday evening. This has key things to remember for the week ahead. In addition, we continue to send out our calendar of events a year ahead, which are also on the school website. (the 24-25 calendar was distributed last week in reports)
- Continuing with our open-door policy where parents can see staff, AHTs or Mrs Johnson when needed. Headteacher remains accessible to all and can be communicated with via phone, email, or face to face.
- We introduced a new drop off and collection procedures ensuring face to face daily contact with all staff and leaders. This has been extremely successful in ensuring improved handovers with staff and giving KS2 parents, the option for children to walk into school independently.
- Trips and residential have been well received this year and continue to further our curriculum offer. Parent feedback suggested that the one-off payment made the year before, didn't work so we offered just one trip for each class in the summer term. Trips were not booked until all payments were made (due to constraints on our school budget) however, have still had to do lots of chasing for payments. I would welcome feedback on trips/residential and how we can balance this for all our parents with the current climate we are in.
- Due to limiting trips to just one trip per academic year. This year we have also included more workshops/visitors in school. This has been made possible with generous donations from our PTA. This will continue in the new academic year with more workshop/visitors planned.
- Sporting competitions. – Woodside has had another successful year with sport and won lots of silverware! Miss Smallwood has ensured all children are recognised and given certificates to all

pupils involved. We purchased 'Team Woodside t- shirts' around 18 months ago but lots have not been returned. As a result, we have not always had enough for children to wear when entering competitions. Due to this constraint, we have ordered x30 new t-shirts for use in the new academic year. However, there will be a new way of issuing these out to children taking part, to ensure we receive the t-shirts back after an event. Parents have previously mentioned about a gazebo being purchased for sporting events. Our wonderful PTA have made this happen and purchased a burgundy and grey coloured gazebo for our team to take to events.

- Feedback from parents, children and staff suggested the transition for pupils moving from Reception to Y1 was not working effectively. In September, we implemented a continuous provision approach in line with EYFS to ensure a smooth transition for our Y1 pupils transitioning from Reception. This has proved extremely successful for the well being and learning of our current Y2 pupils this year. As a result, we will continue with this model going forward.
- Parents of children with SEND have been supported but sometimes feel there is a gap with 'cognition and learning needs' support such as dyslexia. From September, we will be ensuring we support these pupils better and do more as a school. From September, our SEND team will also grow with Miss Orgill shadowing Mrs Johnson and Mrs Day. Therefore, giving more capacity as a school for SEND parents to speak to a member of staff overseeing SEND.
- Feedback from parents about more able children being stretched further- we will continue our successful 'Reading Gladiators' programme and our more able workshops all of which were implemented this year. In addition, next academic year, we will also be looking at what else we can do to support these pupils and offer opportunities to broaden their experiences.
- Parents valued the parent meeting at the start of last year, so this is something that will be offered to year groups in the new academic year.
- We will continue our work on educating children on what bullying is and how to challenge injustice. In addition, Miss Smallwood will be leading the school on UNICEFs Rights Respecting award from September 24 with the Equality Committee.
- We have listened to feedback about workshop timings, Mother's Day and Father's Day events and celebration worship. As a result, celebration worship will now be Friday morning at 8:40am to ensure working parents do not have to miss lots of their working day. In addition, following the positive feedback from our Father's Day breakfast drop in, we will be also making our Mother's Day celebrations at the same time. All other workshops / opportunities to come into school have been staggered throughout the year at various times to try and accommodate all.
- Attendance- parents have raised frustration at attendance letters being sent home. We have liaised with our Attendance Officer at CSAWS and offered an attendance drop in last week and survey.

From the feedback we have received, we will be implementing new rewards and incentives from September. In addition, we have also communicated information early on about term time holiday referrals being made to the LA.

- In September, we will also be speaking to children about how we can improve rewards based on feedback, to ensure all children are valued and recognised. This is to ensure equity for all. We will be implementing school colours and other various rewards throughout the year.

As you will see we have achieved so much this academic year, which we are all overwhelmingly proud of.

I would like to personally thank all our families for the support they have shown to all the staff and school this academic year.

Thank you for your continued support this year and I look forward to working with you in 24-25.

Kind regards
Mrs Natasha Johnson
Headteacher