Dear Parents,

I have pleasure in attaching our Ofsted report following the inspection that took place at St. Laurence on 3rd and 4th July. I am pleased to announce that the school had been judged to be a “Good” school in all areas and is now well on its way to becoming an Outstanding school.

I am very proud to be the Headteacher of this innovative and forward thinking school and wish to point out to you some of the many highlights illustrated in the report that demonstrate the school’s strengths:

“The strong relationships between staff and pupils are a strength of the school and have a very positive impact on the pupils’ learning and behaviour. ”

“Pupils’ personal development is good. Pupils are polite, well-behaved and are respectful to one another.”

“Leaders ensure that the curriculum is broad and balanced. Pupils are interested in what they study and gain a strong set of key skills which they practise across a wide variety of subjects and relevant contexts. Pupils talk positively about the range of practical and different learning activities provided within and beyond the classroom.”

“Pupils’ spiritual, moral, social and cultural development is a strength of the school………Pupils are caring and they are proud of their school community.”

“Pupils’ progress has improved significantly and is now strong. Across the school, pupils are making more rapid progress in reading, mathematics and writing than previously. They are prepared well for the next stage of their education.”

What do we need to continue to work on to get to Outstanding?

Teaching and Learning

- Teachers to adjust the level of challenge to develop pupils’ skills more quickly, especially for higher attaining pupils.
- Staff to use questioning more consistently to extend learning.

Outcomes

- Pupils need to have greater opportunities to develop their writing skills in different subjects.
- Staff to continue to have high expectations of pupils’ presentation of their work.

This is such an accomplishment for the school and with your continued support and guidance I am sure that St. Laurence will continue to thrive. I wish to thank all the staff for their enthusiasm, dedication and commitment. I would also like to thank the Trustees for their support and challenge and to thank all the parents who spoke to the Inspectors during the inspection and/or completed online questionnaires and have supported the school on its journey. The school has now moved from Required Improvement for total effectiveness to being a Good school and is well on its way to becoming Outstanding. What an exciting time lies ahead for all of us and what a great start to the new academic year!

Kindest regards,
Michelle Palmer
Headteacher