

June 2019

To: All Staff at Wyndham Primary School

Dear colleagues,

Thank You

As we approach the end of this academic year, on behalf of the Governing Body of Wyndham Primary School, we would like to express our thanks to each and every one of you for all for your hard work and dedication throughout the year.

We really appreciate our wonderful staff team, who give so much of their time and energy throughout the school year to give our students such a rich experience, which at times can be challenging given the different backgrounds and needs of our children. We would like to thank Rachael and her leadership team, who have kept everything running smoothly and provided clear, strong leadership in a challenging educational environment. We are also appreciative of Kim's efforts in successfully transitioning into her role as acting Headteacher – a role that carries a great lot of responsibility - whilst Rachael is on maternity leave.

It has been wonderful to see that as a school we have settled into our academy status, ultimately translating into working more collaboratively with our fellow SMART schools. Any change, no matter how small, can be unsettling and entail additional bureaucracy but we are pleased to see that as a school we have successfully navigated through these changes.

We would like to thank our kitchen team for preparing and serving hundreds of meals daily in a clockwork manner and providing the right fuel to optimise our student's learning experience. We appreciate the thought and effort that is taken in providing well-rounded and nutritionally balanced meals, especially considering the restrictive dietary requirements some of our students may have. For many students, a school meal may be the only nutritious meal they consume on that day. Giving them a chance to enjoy and educate them about other foods they may not necessarily be familiar with, inevitably leads to having a positive impact on their lifestyle and wellbeing beyond their Wyndham School experience. Thank you to our lunchtime staff who take good care of the children, supervising them as they enjoy our outdoor spaces. Such roles make the children feel safe and valued at all times and really help to build the Wyndham community.

Thank you to our cleaning and caretaking teams who keep our school clean, tidy and make it a safe and beautiful environment for our children to learn in. Our office staff, on whom parents, pupils and teachers depend on for a variety of duties, have provided excellent support whilst working closely with our colleagues across the trust. For many of the school's visitors, parents and students they are the first point of contact on a day to day basis, and they never fail to offer a warm reception, making everyone feel valued and looked after.

We would like to thank our Lead Professional and Counselling team who provide vital support to children and families in our school, motivating and encouraging them to come to school with minimal intervention and coming up with innovative, exciting and practical ways to make sure our children are engaged and attend school, as often as possible, providing them with safe routines to help them to achieve their full potential. The work they perform with targeted pupils

and their families on a wide-range of issues including parenting advice, housing support, and liaison with external agencies is invaluable and helps immeasurably in removing some of the obstacles these families face.

A special “thank you” to our teaching staff, our classroom teachers, nursery nurses and learning support assistants for the unseen work they do — including preparing for each subject they teach, marking books and carrying out pupil assessments, planning the curriculum, attending staff and committee meetings, researching and learning to use materials for new initiatives. All of these are in addition to their actual classroom teaching time.

In addition to this, there are the parent’s evenings and enhancement activities, such as supporting with external trips and liaising with third parties to enhance and bring to life that being taught in the classroom environment, which are often undertaken outside of the normal teaching day and take time away from their own families.

Look back at the 18-19 academic year’s highlights

The last academic year was a memorable year for a number of reasons. It was a year in which the school celebrated its 60th anniversary and where we can all look back and see that we have gone from strength to strength.

We wanted to reflect on some of the impressive work and efforts that we have been made aware of over the past 12 months as part of Full Governing Body Meetings, Committee meetings and during the very enjoyable learning walks that have taken place at the school.

Please accept our apologies if we have missed anything out - the sheer amount of excellent teaching and learning practice taking place at Wyndham Primary School would likely fill several volumes, as your well-ran Facebook page reminds us!

Our Curriculum

Our learning walks through school are a real testimony to the hard work and dedication of our staff in ensuring the curriculum delivered in the classroom (and outside) is exciting, engaging and stimulating. Many of the governing body have appreciated the time that subject leads have taken out of their busy schedule to show them their planning, to see lessons in action and to share with them their vision for developing the curriculum further. It truly is amazing to see how teaching methodologies have developed and are being embraced at the school.

As a governing body we are really proud whenever we have the opportunity to walk through our school, watch as the children are enthused by the topics that they are learning and see the evidence of their learning on displays, in their books and through their achievements. The evidence of such positive relationships and routines that are in place, support our belief that our children are incredibly lucky.

Our year 6 students were so well prepared for their recent SATs, which is a credit to the whole school and the hard work of Mrs Gathercole and Mrs Kilner, particularly given the changes in staffing we have had at year 6 level. All efforts to ensure their success have been hugely appreciated.

Immersive Project Based Learning

Immersive Project Based Learning teaching styles have been noted in all classrooms during all of our governor learning walks this year. Governors were very impressed with the activities they saw in classrooms and the enthusiasm that the children were expressing during these sessions for learning.

Extra Curricular Opportunities

We are very impressed at the exceptional quality of the extra curricular opportunities provided to children at Wyndham Primary School. These activities would not be possible without the flexibility and support of all of the staff, who time and time again go above and beyond their roles. We want to pass on our appreciation for the time, energy and creativity you put into these activities, many of which are only realised directly from the efforts you put in through researching providers and facilitators. They really enhance our school's teaching experience and reputation and support some of our most vulnerable children and young people to gain experiences that they perhaps would not be able to outside of the school environment.

We would like to commend your efforts outside of the classroom environment in engaging with hard to reach pupils who perhaps struggle to attend school frequently; we know that the interventions that have been put into place are making a real impact on these young people.

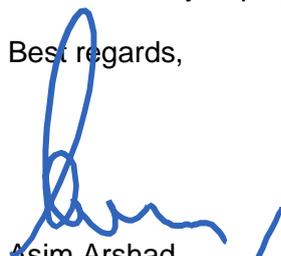
Looking Forward

As governors, we thank you for your continued enthusiasm and passion for learning, helping to bring out the best in our students - ***each and every one of you make such a positive difference to the children's lives, we as a school are entrusted to educate.*** The level of staff absence is exceptionally low in comparison to many other schools so we would like to again commend your hard work and efforts in what has been a very change filled year so far.

As a governing body, we recognise that we have an experienced, capable and talented team at Wyndham and we want to support you to continue with your personal development in any way we can. Please share with us any ideas, thoughts or proposals that you feel would strengthen our team further and deliver on our aim in giving our students the best educational start in life and we will do our utmost to assist you in taking these forward. Similarly, if you have any concerns or issues you would like to flag up then please do not hesitate to speak to me or a member of the governing body.

Once again, on behalf of the whole governing body of Wyndham Primary School please accept our thanks for another fantastic academic year that you all can be proud of. Thank you for your willingness to give so much of your own time for the sake of the children of our community in helping them achieve their potential – something I have seen first-hand as a parent governor - and we really hope you enjoy the time off over the Summer, which you truly deserve.

Best regards,



Asim Arshad
Chair of Governors