



North Primary School and Nursery

A town centre school with a strong community ethos



September 2017

Dear Parents

It is my pleasure to write to you on behalf of the Governing Body, and welcome you to a new school year at North Primary School and Nursery.

We do hope you all had a relaxing summer break, and the children are starting the new school year recharged and ready to go.

The school had much to celebrate last year. Staff worked extremely hard to produce an interesting curriculum, with lots of extra-curricular activities and trips including, out in the local community to the park, Town Hall, Tesco and the Zoo. Further afield to Weymouth, Walton, Mersea, the O2, Birmingham and Stansted Airport. Some highlights of the year are shown in the pictures contained in this report.

Many of these activities are made possible through the magnificent efforts of the whole school community to generate income. This includes the fundraising activities of the NSA and we encourage you to keep supporting events such as School Discos, Bingo, Quiz as well as the Half Marathon and the enterprise events run by all the classes throughout the year. By working together we can continue to provide an exciting and vibrant education that is Free for All.

There is the opportunity for lots of extra learning within and outside the school day. North's Got Talent is certainly true, and a very successful talent show was held this year. In addition a group of children made it through to the Robot Challenge final in Birmingham; we had a Year 6 Rock band performing in the Castle Park. One pupil was successful in a National Writing competition, and a record number of children graduated from the Children's University. The school achieved the Active Essex Award, and Mrs Eves has an ever growing number attending her clubs. We are thinking of ways to support working families by piloting the Sunrise breakfast club and continue to offer a wide range of after school clubs which are run by staff and external club leaders.

Local Authority education experts visited the school and were pleased with what they saw. The new national assessment system is settling down at North. Attainment (pupils' results) was generally higher than last year, all year groups made good progress. Ofsted inspectors are due to inspect the school any day. We have been preparing for their visit, and we hope they will agree that the school is doing a good job for our children.

Change is inevitable in this current political climate, and we have made changes in our own Nursery, with sessions now extended to three hours, allowing 30 hour per week provision for some eligible children, in line with Government requirements. Other changes are also likely, and the governors will be working closely with staff and parents to ensure any change required happens smoothly. We will keep you informed of any changes through Newline. A parental survey is also planned for this term which is a great opportunity for you to share your views with us.

Governors play an active part in the life of the school, supporting staff, representing parents and ensuring we give our pupils the best opportunities. If you would like to help us, look out for letters due out this term about joining us as we will be recruiting new parent governors.

We are sure this year will be equally as busy and exciting as last year for the children, and we look forward to working with you all.

Yours sincerely
Jan Blackwell
Chair of Governors.

