



North Primary School and Nursery

A town centre school with a strong community ethos



September 2018

Dear Parents,

As another school year begins, the governors would like to welcome you back from the summer break and extend a warm welcome to all the new families joining us. The start of term is a good opportunity to share with you reflections on last year's events, and the pictures shown in this letter give a small taste of the many things that took place.



The autumn term started with the eagerly anticipated annual Year 6 trip to Weymouth, which as well as being great fun for all involved, is also a valuable team building opportunity for Year 6s at the start of their final year at our school. Ofsted came in October. We as governors were pleased and proud that the school was able to maintain its "good" judgement, and that the hard work of teachers, and the excellent behaviour and attitude of pupils was recognised by the Ofsted Inspector. Christmas productions gave Reception a chance to show how much they had grown in confidence since September, we enjoyed Santa and the Beanstalk from KS1, a traditional nativity from lower KS2, singing from the nursery and we culminated with a magical Carol concert from Upper KS2.



Year 5 were involved in a Heritage funded history project "Homecoming", about WW1, following on from the original project "We Will Remember Them". This has included a visit to the Essex Record Office in Chelmsford and working with a local artist. The project will conclude this year as they move through Year 6.



During the spring term, Space was a very popular topic for KS1, we had the Robot Challenge, e-safety and a fabulous Easter Parade. There was also a brilliant performance from our choir and dancers at Charter Hall.

Highlights from the summer term include KS1 performance of the Seaside and KS2 Vive La France. The weather was good for our sports days and many other sporting events that took place with other schools. We had North's Got Talent, and music concerts. The term ended with a fantastic performance from our Year 6s of The Twelve Tasks of Hercules / Phoebe. There were trips out including to the Essex Food and Farming event, and the seaside. We were winners of the Mayor's Speakers Competition, and St Helena's writing competition.



Fundraising took place throughout the year. Once again we entered a team of runners, and helped out with stewards, in the Colchester Half Marathon and raised £2935. Other events included a class half marathon event, the penny race, Christmas Bazaar, Spring Fair and Summer Fete. Our thanks to the NSA for all their hard work organising these and other events during the year which all help to ensure Free for All is able to continue funding trips and extra curricular activities for the children. We also supported other charities including the Rotary Eliminate Polio programme. The Sunrise and Sunset clubs have proven very popular, and help to provide wrap around care for children. Changes in the Nursery provision has also helped working parents.



The staff work extremely hard to provide a rich and varied curriculum designed to engage all the children in their learning, good results endorsed this. I am sure the year ahead will be no exception. Governors will continue to work supporting the staff, and maintaining good communication with you; the parents. Please feel free to contact us, via the office, if you have any suggestions and ideas. It is likely we will be recruiting new governors later on in the term. You may wish to join us in helping to support the smooth running of the school.

We wish you and your children a wonderful year ahead.

Yours sincerely
Jan Blackwell
Chair of Governors.

