



Friday 26th April

Dear Parents/Carers,

## *Inspired ...*



**"...with God's help, to become the best that we can be."**  
*from the new ACE vision statement*

It has been a great delight working here at Ashford over the past couple of terms with Mr Austin, the governors, the whole leadership team and all the staff. It has been an exceptionally busy couple of terms, including Ofsted and SIAMS inspections in that time. Also, in that time we have had a chance to revisit who we are as a school and re-write our vision statement in which we say that **'we aspire, with God's help, to become the best that we can be'**. The children themselves are the best 'mouthpiece' for the school and I know many relish challenge and love to learn.

As we begin a new term, and a new iShare Learning theme of **'Inspired'**, it is the perfect time to raise this aspiration further and ensure that an embedded strength in our school culture is **high expectations** - this is how we get to be **the best we can be**. I spoke about this in whole school worship with the children yesterday, in relation to both learning and conduct in the school; from how hard they work in lessons, to how they present work in our books, from how they line up on the playground, to how they speak to each other, and so on, we expect them to be **the best they can be**.

There is so much more to do in our school to be **the best that we can be** and to build on the good foundations we have. We are expecting a full Ofsted inspection in the next 12-18 months and some things in the school, while improving, will need your support in us being confident that we can raise expectations further:

- ✓ Attendance is a key determiner of school success for your child now and in the future; this still needs to improve;
- ✓ Support at home in basic skills, such as reading every night and learning times tables, will make a huge difference in the progress a child will make in their primary years and beyond;
- ✓ A supportive home/school relationship is crucial in ensuring the highest conduct of children when at school

Thank you so much for your continued support you give to the school and to your children; please aspire with us to ensure high expectations and become **the best that we can be**.

Yours sincerely,

Neil Meehan  
Executive Headteacher  
Laleham and Ashford C of E Schools Partnership