



ACE . . . In Touch

Newsletter from the Governors

February 2015

“ Ashford CE is a GOOD school ” says Ofsted

I'M DELIGHTED and excited that I'm able to tell you officially that our recent Ofsted inspection report has been published, and the inspection team have re-categorised Ashford CE as a GOOD school in all 5 areas!

Everyone involved with the school over many years will know what a huge achievement this is for us. Since Ofsted was established in the early 90s, our school has always been judged 'Satisfactory', or under the new framework, 'Requires Improvement'.

Today we have a report, which highlights the journey we, as a school and community, have been on for the last four years. It rightly rewards us for the hard work and dedication that has made this momentous occasion possible.

On behalf of the Governing body, I would like to express my heartfelt thanks to all of the staff at our school. Everyone has worked so, so hard to make this judgement possible. Lead by Caroline Dyer; the school team has worked tirelessly to improve the learning of all of our children, the environment in which they learn and to instil the belief that everyone can achieve.

My thanks also go to each and every parent, carer, relative and friend who has been part of the school's journey and drive to 'good'. You know who you are: you are the parents who completed the 'parent view survey'; those of you who spoke with the Inspectors in the playground; those people who supported the school through the building and maintenance programme and the dedicated members of our PTA who make our fundraising events such a success. We all have an equally valuable role to play.

But there is one group which deserves special mention. That is the children of Ashford CE School. You are what make our school the vibrant, friendly, and welcoming place it has become. It is a school where each and every one of you believes, achieves and succeeds.

I have enclosed the Ofsted report for you and your family to share. I'm sure you will find it a very positive read and I hope you all have an enjoyable half term when it comes. I look forward to writing to you again soon, outlining our next steps as a school and our drive to OUTSTANDING!

Phil Wells
Chair of Governors

- ❖ The school has improved substantially since its last inspection
- ❖ Pupils enjoy learning and behave well in lessons
- ❖ Teachers make their high expectations clear and know their subjects well
- ❖ Pupils from different backgrounds work and play harmoniously together
- ❖ Gaps between the attainment of disadvantaged pupils and that of others is narrowing
- ❖ Pupils feel safe and say the school looks after them well
- ❖ Pupils are given a very good grounding in the fundamental British values of democracy and respect of others
- ❖ Senior leaders work closely and effectively together. They share a strong common purpose and have united the staff behind them in their drive for improvement. As a result, the school runs smoothly so that pupils are safe and can flourish
- ❖ Pupils' achievement has risen in both Key Stage 1 (Infants) and Key Stage 2 (Juniors)
- ❖ Teaching is consistently good
- ❖ Disabled pupils and those with Special Educational Needs (SEN) make good progress
- ❖ The new school website is professional and informative helping parental engagement