TOGETHER WE ACHIEVE

Mill Road, Higher Bebington, Wirral, CH63 8QE <u>www.higherbebington.wirral.sch.uk</u> E-mail: schooloffice@higherbebington.wirral.sch.uk Tel/Fax: 0151 608 1011

Headteacher: Mrs S. Calveley B.Ed.(Hons)

November 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Ofsted Inspection Feedback and Report

Please find attached a copy of our Ofsted report following our recent inspection on the 11th and 12th of October.

I am pleased to inform you that we are now an Ofsted 'Good 'school. Although there has been a change in our official Ofsted grading, as a school we are very proud of the report and the many positive achievements noted within it -and there has certainly been no change to the high quality education your children receive!

As the report itself states, it has been 15 years since our previous inspection and in that time, as you would expect, there has been a large number of changes made to the framework that the inspection team uses to assess our school. However, the leadership team and Governing Body certainly feel that the school has continued to go from strength to strength in that time and we were pleased that the inspection outcome matched our own self-evaluation of the school including our strengths and areas for improvement. I hope when you have read the report, you will join me in celebrating the many successes of the school and your children.

However, the aspect that is slightly disappointing is the length of the inspection report itself! Over the years, and through the changes to the inspection framework, the reports have become gradually shorter and less detailed- in essence they are now a summary of the extensive feedback that was given to senior leaders and Governors during our meetings with the inspection team.

During this feedback, inspectors went into further detail about our achievements emphasising other aspects such as:

- the depth of knowledge of our subject leaders and their skilled work in the design of our curriculum;
- the excellent transition we provide as the children move from Year 2 to 3 to ensure no learning time is lost;
- the strong offer for children with SEND including impressive examples of where staff have gone above and beyond to support individual pupils;
- how children shared they had no concerns about bullying but that are very clear about what it is and what they would do should it occur;
- the calm and productive lunchtimes brought about by the introduction of OPAL;

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 the well planned and developed programmes for developing the children's character, including the wide range of leadership roles available to them, allowing them to gain confidence and self-belief.

As you can imagine, the feedback received within the report does not just simply happen and there are a range of people both myself and the Governors would like to thank.

1. All of our children

'Pupils are proud to attend Higher Bebington Junior School. Pupils show respectful attitudes to each other. Pupils learn to take risks, to communicate and to resolve conflict. Pupils behave well.' As I said in my recent newsletter, I am so very proud of all of the children – not only during the inspection but every day! Throughout the two-day visit the children, as we would expect, shone out and behaved beautifully. In lesson visits, talks with the inspectors and during break and lunchtimes the children spoke eloquently and enthusiastically about what it was like to be a pupil at our school and their learning.

2. Our whole staff team

'The school has high expectations for what pupils can achieve. Pupils...value the nurture and care that the school provides for them. Pupils benefit from positive and supportive relationships with the adults in the school. '

I'm delighted that the relentless hard work and commitment from all our staff is recognised within the report and in the inspection feedback we receive. We pride ourselves in building those positive relationships with children to enable them to be the best that they can be. This report is a true team effort and I would like to express my thanks to each adult who contributes to this.

In addition to this, the inspection team spoke very highly about all of our teachers both in their role as teachers and as subject leaders (which all teachers are). They commented that all subject leaders are passionate and knowledgeable which I would wholeheartedly agree with.

3. Leadership including Governance

'Staff said they feel valued by leaders. Staff are positive about the support they receive from leaders to carry out their roles effectively'.

Throughout the inspection, the inspectors all commented on the real sense of team and that staff are proud to work at our school. They highlighted that the professional development made available to all staff is a real strength of leadership and management and that staff feel listened to and supported. A special mention to our Governors who continue to support us in our work.

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4. Our families

During the inspection feedback, the inspectors also commented on the overwhelmingly positive feedback they had received from parents both via Parent View and in person. The comments you made were a source of pride as we continue to further develop and strengthen those key relationships between home and school.

With regards to our areas for improvement, as with every school, we are on a continuous journey of improvement in order that we continue to offer and deliver the best possible curriculum and wider opportunities for your children. We welcome feedback and feel that, although both 'targets' given to us relate to very minor pockets of inconsistency, these are certainly areas we will strive to address.

The full report is attached to this Parent Mail and will also be available <u>here</u> on the Ofsted website in approximately a week's time.

I am extremely proud to be the Headteacher of Higher Bebington Junior School and would once again like to thank the children, staff, parents and Governors for all the work you do in making our school the wonderful place it is.

Kind regards

Mrs Calveley Headteacher