THE LEA PRIMARY SCHOOL & NURSERY

18th July 2025

Dear All,

As the summer term draws to a close I would like to extend the Governing Body's thanks to the whole school community for what has been an eventful and successful year at The Lea.

It began with a new and updated computer system introduced during the last summer holidays which staff mastered in double-quick time as we then received the call from Ofsted.

The inspectors were quick to see what a great place The Lea is, observing how "pupils are proud to attend, have excellent attitudes to their learning and are motivated to achieve the high standards set by the school."

In its final report Ofsted praised The Lea's "caring and inclusive environment", its "ambitious program of study" and "high expectations," as well as the "exemplary" behaviour of its pupils. They judged the school to be outstanding in every category; Outstanding in the quality of education, Outstanding in behaviour and attitudes, Outstanding in Personal development, Outstanding in Leadership and Management and Outstanding in early years provision. This wonderful judgement is a testament to the hard work, professionalism, dedication and skill of Mrs Berry's staff, to the support of our parents, to the effective oversight by the governing body and to the exceptional qualities of our pupils.

The inspection team commented on how "the school provides pupils with a wide variety of opportunities to develop their skills and interests beyond the curriculum" and on the range of extracurricular clubs and activities. These would not be possible without the support of the school's many volunteers who help listening to readers, support children in different subjects or get involved in the school's sports fixtures and activities. The huge range of activities would certainly not happen without the help of our fabulous PTA who not only manage events like the school discos, the school fetes or this year's brilliant Colour Run but also help to raise significant sums of money which, this year, allowed the school to develop its Key Stage 1 Play Area and purchase additional laptops for Key Stage 2.

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Of course, we must not forget the children. The pupils at The Lea are remarkable young individuals. Throughout the year they have shown enthusiasm, energy, resilience and determination. Ofsted, who see thousands of children in other schools, observed how special ours were. They noted how “older pupils act as great role models, demonstrating the schools values of kindness and respect.” and that this “starts in early years where children settle quickly and learn to share and be kind from the very start.” That our pupils are living examples of The Lea’s ethos is something we can all take pride in.

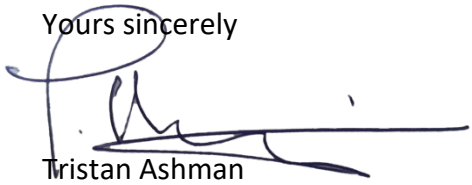
As we come to the end of the year, the children have been excited by the prospects of their new classes next year, with Year 6 in particular readying for the next phase of their education at secondary school. There are exciting changes for some of our staff too. Teaching Assistant Ms Lukwago Reeve is leaving us for new career challenges. Career progression is also happening for Ms Torrance, who will return to The Lea in September as a PGCE trainee teacher rather than a Teaching Assistant, and in October Ms Morrow will begin her maternity leave. To all three we give our very best wishes and, on behalf of the governing body I would like to thank them and the entire staff body for their huge contributions to life at The Lea.

The governing body is also saying goodbye to three governors who are standing down this year. Natalie Burns, Tanya Mortlock and Emma Murphy have all contributed hugely to the school and the governing body and I would like to take this opportunity to thank them too.

On behalf of the school’s governing body, I would like to wish all members of the school community a restful, happy and enjoyable break. I know the school will face some challenges next year, particularly around issues of finance, but I am very confident that we will rise to meet whatever faces us and have another extremely successful year.

With all good wishes for the summer and for September 2025

Yours sincerely



Tristan Ashman
Chair of Governors
The Lea Primary School and Nursery