



**Stocksbridge Nursery Infant School**  
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Dear Parents, Carers & Guardians,

19<sup>th</sup> July 2019

## **LAST LETTER OF THE YEAR!**

Well here we are writing the last letter of the year. Every year it amazes me at how quickly the time goes.

We have had another lovely year in school. The children have all worked and played hard and learned a great deal. They have progressed academically but what is more wonderful to see, is how they develop as little human beings. They have learned to get along more; they have learned to be more resilient. They have become more confident in themselves and in being at school.

As always, lots has happened. The children have been out – locally and further afield – and we've had visitors in. Just last week all the children enjoyed watching Yellow is the Colour of Sunshine, performed by Tutti Frutti who are just an amazing touring theatre company.

Yesterday our Reception children thoroughly enjoyed their beach party day. Many of the older children were envious of the water fight. I wasn't, surprisingly!

It's lovely to have been chosen as Sheffield School of the Year for Inclusive Sport. I think this is just testament to our ethos here, where everyone is welcomed, valued and included regardless of what you can or cannot do (yet), what you bring etc. Everyone is special in some way.

The Year 1 and two children enjoyed the Fun Run at the Junior School and we are hoping to do more joint sporting ventures with them in the future. It is just nice for our children to get familiar with the local schools and for us to do things together.

We are waiting to hear what prize we have been given for all the efforts the children, yourselves and staff made during the last 10-day active travel.

Today we say farewell to our wonderful Year 2 children. They have been a small and lovely cohort to take through school. Each and every one of them has made terrific progress from their starting points in Nursery and Reception and I feel confident that they are ready for the Junior School and will flourish there. There are some strong friendships in Year 2, which is not to say we don't have clashes sometimes, (these children are still just 6 and 7 years old) but they are also a very caring group of children who look out and after each other. They welcome in new children, are accepting of differences and quick to celebrate each other's achievements. Just this morning in assembly, I spotted many children giving those with attendance certificates thumbs up.

We wish our Y2 children lots of luck and love as they move on to the next stage of their education. We also say goodbye to George Peacock today who is moving schools. We have loved having George with us.....we will miss his mischievousness, his lovely smile and his gorgeous eyes! Good luck George.

I feel very lucky to work at our school, with these great children but also with the wonderful staff we have. It has been a hard year for us in school. We have had a lot of absence this year – much more than





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usual. The staff, collectively, have pulled together to support each other and try to give as much consistency as we can to children. I am very grateful to them for the wonderful team spirit we have and how hard they work for school and the children. Teaching is definitely a vocation not a job. We do it because we care; we are passionate and driven to make a difference to children and each other's lives.

We said goodbye to Mrs Flowers today. She is off to try something different. She is going to train to be a driving instructor. When Miss Adams explained this to Cole in Class 5. She told him that Mrs Flowers might teach him to drive when he is older. His reply....in all innocence....was "Well, if she's not retired by then!" We wish Mrs Flowers well; we will miss her and we thank her for all the work she has done with the children.

And Mr Dobbs retires today after 24 years at our school. He has touched the lives of many children and many adults. He has inspired, cared for, coached and cajoled thousands of children in his career and I know there are many that remember him with great fondness. That is what great teachers do – make a difference and create memories. Mr Dobbs has many interests out of school and we know he will never be bored. We just hope he stays safe, as he is prone to the odd accident or two! Goodbye, good luck and congratulations on all you have done and achieved in your career.

On Tuesday, we celebrated 100% attendance for the summer term. 112 children came out to the front in assembly to receive their sticker. The following children have been very lucky and have not been ill or had appointments and have 100% attendance for the year: Annabelle Fisher, Maggie Jones, Carson Bowskill, Carson Bullimore, Tommy Costello, Darcy Hague, Jessica Harper, Sophie Hawksworth, Priya Marshall, William Powell, Georgia Reeder, George Spencer, Sarah Tompkin, Rosie Brumby, Violet Merrywest and Esme Tym.

Our Y1, Reception and Nursery children will be bringing home a reading bingo. If they complete a line, or get a full house, please send it back the first week and prizes will be awarded. Also, don't forget to visit Stocksbridge Library and take part in the Reading Challenge.

Imagination Gaming in the form of Chris Standley have been in each week and have made a huge difference in school. Gaming has helped the children learn to share, to take turns, to lose graciously, to get on with children you might not always choose to be with and to have fun. They are running events over the summer and would love to see some of the children's friendly faces. Here's the link to their events page:

<https://imaginationgaming.co.uk/events>

After the holidays.....

School re-opens for Year 1, 2 and existing Nursery children on Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> September. Our Reception children are having a staggered start and parents have the dates for their children.

There will be no clubs the first two weeks back. We will send more information when we get back.

I will finalise dates for the school year over the summer holiday and send these out via e-mail. They will also be available on our school website.





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I hope you all have a lovely holiday and a well-deserved rest from the routine of school. Recharge those batteries and enjoy more family time. We will see you all in September.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Townsend

Headteacher

