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Executive
Headteacher
Clare McFlynn

Head of School
Angela Noronha

9th July 2018

Dear parent/carer,

I am very pleased to write to you regarding a recent initiative which took place in school to ensure the children at St Joseph's continue to receive the best possible educational opportunities.

As you know, Ofsted last inspected the School in 2009 and graded it as "Outstanding". Since that time there have been several significant changes to how Ofsted inspections are carried out. This has resulted in a much more rigorous approach to inspections with raised expectations about what is judged as outstanding and what gradings are given.

Since Ms McFlynn came to the School, we have engaged experienced external consultants to assess the School's performance on a regular basis. That has enabled us to see where we are strong and where we need to improve our performance; however those reviews have not been the same as an Ofsted inspection.

The governors and the school leadership team are highly committed to ensuring that the School continues to be "Outstanding" under the current inspection framework. As there has been no Ofsted inspection since 2009 we decided to have an external review carried out.

Earlier this term we invited a team of qualified Ofsted inspectors to review the School in the same way as they would do if Ofsted were actually inspecting the School. Organising a review of a school's performance to Ofsted standards is not something that schools usually do and is an additional challenge for school leaders, including governors and staff. However, we felt the review should take place as it is our responsibility is to provide the children in St. Joseph's with the highest standards of education. The report of the review is now available and is attached for your information.

As the report is not a formal Ofsted report, it does not give the School a formal Ofsted rating. However, the contents of the report make it clear that the School would retain its "Outstanding" grade if Ofsted were to inspect it under the current framework. We are very pleased with the report and I would like to thank all members of staff and, in particular, Miss McFlynn and Mrs Noronha for all the effort that they put into making each child's learning experience at the School a rewarding experience in every respect.

We remain very proud of our school, the staff, the governors and of course the children. We also thank you, the parents for your continued support and hope you too will be delighted with the attached report.

I wish you all a very happy end of term and enjoyable summer break.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K.P.E. Lasok', written over a white rectangular background.

K.P.E.Lasok
(Chair of Governors)