



Monday, 12th June 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I am absolutely delighted and proud to share with you the outcome of our recent Ofsted inspection (section 8) on Thursday 4th and Friday 5th May 2023. Please see the attached report which will be published on the Ofsted website on Tuesday, 20th June 2023. You are instrumental in Walford's continued success and I would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your continued support and commitment to the work of the school.

What is particularly notable in the report, is the outcome, documented in the first paragraph... ***Walford Nursery & Primary School continues to be a good school. There is enough evidence of improved performance to suggest that the school could be judged outstanding if we were to carry out a graded (section 5) inspection now.*** In addition, you will also note that no areas for improvement have been identified.

I would like to emphasise two important points regarding the current Ofsted inspection framework. In November 2021, Amanda Spielman, Ofsted Chief Inspector, stated that she expected the number of 'outstanding' schools in England to fall by roughly 50% following inspections.

Chris Russell, Ofsted's Director of Education, reported, *"Some 'outstanding' schools which have improved since their last inspection may still be downgraded because the bar has been raised under the latest Ofsted inspection framework."*

The process is indeed very rigorous and the bar has been raised significantly which makes the outcome of our Ofsted inspection even more impressive. Mr Spoor, our Ofsted Lead Inspector, was particularly impressed with our *'articulate and enthusiastic learners who love reading and enjoy warm relationships with the staff, whilst collaborating well with each other'*. Throughout the two days of inspection, your children sparkled in every way making both myself and the whole school team feel exceptionally proud.

School governors and I are in awe of the passion, hard work and commitment demonstrated by every member of the Walford team. They are fabulous role models who are dedicated to supporting every learner in their care whilst inspiring and motivating pupils through unique and invigorating approaches to teaching and learning.



*Learning and Enjoyment...
Every Child, Every Opportunity, Every Day!*

Please accept my heartfelt congratulations and sincere thanks to each of you for your overwhelming support, for cultivating such a positive partnership with the school team and for the commitment you have shown to your children and their learning.

We are all committed to excellence and we persevere to keep striving even higher to make wonderful Walford the incredible school it is today. Together, we have created a safe learning environment with a unique combination of warmth and support mixed with rigour, robustness and high expectations for all.

There is clearly much to celebrate and be proud of as this highly successful academic year draws to a close. I am excited and look forward to working with you again in the academic year 2023 – 2024 but, in the meantime, we shall all enjoy an action-packed end to the school year!

With very best wishes



Ms L George
Headteacher



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