

23.3.18

Dear Parents and Carers,

Earlier this week you will have received a copy of the letter sent to the school by Ofsted outlining the result of the visit on 8th February 2018.

We are extremely pleased that the Inspector was able to see all of the hard work that every member of the Howes community has put in to ensuring that we make improvements to achieve Good at our next inspection. The inspector also identified key areas for us to continue to develop to ensure that every child at Howes can be the best that they can be.

Key highlights from the letter:

- * We have been determined to create a culture of ambition and aspiration, where all pupils are encouraged to achieve in a caring, well-disciplined environment. As a result, outcomes are improving.
- * The school has clear tracking system, which allows us to keep detailed information about different groups of pupils and the progress that they make. Teachers have a much clearer information about pupils' starting points and next steps, and any gaps in pupils' learning.
- * Training for teachers and other staff has improved their skills in providing better challenge for pupils.
- * Pupils' presentation is improving and they are using basic skills more accurately. Handwriting is neat, and spelling and punctuation are generally accurate. The books demonstrate that pupils are making stronger progress.
- * We have set clear expectations for teachers and staff across the early years. We have improved the provision and outcomes for the children. Individual development is captured in learning journeys, which clearly highlight the rapid progress boys are making in their writing.
- * The tracking of attendance is highly effective. We know the pupils and their families well, and there are good systems to follow up pupils' absences and to encourage punctuality. As a result of this work, attendance is improving and persistent absence has rapidly declined.

WELL DONE HOWES!

Thank you all for your continued support.

Sioux Cooke
Headteacher