

***“A Whisker from Outstanding” OFSTED 2017 HMI Mr S.Gale***

This week sees the publication of our recent one day OFSTED inspection and as the school’s Governing Body, we would like to congratulate the whole of Team AK on their incredible hard work and dedication.

As Governors, we are in the privileged position of seeing all the behind the scenes action at our school and are incredibly proud of Team AK. Led by our outstanding head teacher Mrs Saville, the school has undergone an amazing journey over the last 3 years and those of you who are long term parents at the school will have no doubt seen the positive changes made during that time.

***“Your passion, energy and commitment is described by pupils, staff and parents alike as ‘inspirational’” OFSTED 2017***

Since 2014 Team AK has been on a determined and unrelenting journey to constantly improve. The commitment needed to embark and travel down this challenging pathway from such a low starting point and arrive at where the school is now cannot be underestimated.

Working so closely with the school as the Governing Body does, we know that the school team strives to ***shine bright and reach for the stars*** and the school is now excited about the next steps on the journey to OFSTED’s grading of outstanding. These targets are already on our School Improvement Plan and are easily achievable.

***“the school environment and curriculum promotes pupils’ curiosity, interest and activity.” OFSTED 2017***

Since our inspection in April 2012, OFSTED’s inspection framework changed quite radically in 2015, with far higher expectations and much more rigorous investigation. We cannot, therefore, make a like for like comparison of the 2012 ‘good’ and the ‘good’ of 2017. To put it in perspective, if we were inspected under the previous criteria, our achievement of good would be the previous judgement of outstanding.

***“pupils are highly motivated and benefit from a wide and broad curriculum” OFSTED 2017***

The Governors are also thrilled to be part of the strong relationship with parents who have been so supportive of and complimentary to Team AK. Over 130 parents submitted their opinion of the school on Parentview with 100% recommending AK.

***“One parent, whose view was typical, wrote, “Ashton Keynes is phenomenal.... (you) and all the staff are truly fantastic and want every child in the school to be the best they can be!” OFSTED 2017***

We are proud of our children and know that the school endeavours to bring out the best in each and every one of them. Pupils told the OFSTED inspector that this is a ***“ wonderful, inspiring and caring school.”***

***“You have worked successfully with others, including Governors, to improve teaching so that it is aspirational and challenging, yet suitably tailored to the needs of different pupils.” OFSTED 2017***

This has been the greatest year yet with the **SIAMS** inspection grading the school to be ***outstanding in all areas***, the best ever **SATS** results, placing the school in the ***highest 10% nationally*** and finishing with a one day inspection from OFSTED. The HMI inspector stated that the school was a ***“whisker from outstanding.”***

As Governors, we would like to express how proud we are of Team AK who are consistently delivering amazing results and incredibly high standards. Thank you to Mrs Saville, and the incredible AK team. Thank you too, children; your determination is a lesson to us all.

Everyone has proved themselves to ***shine bright and truly reach for the stars.***