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Headteacher: Mr P Stanyard

Wednesday 19th July 2017

Dear Parents, Carers, and Staff,

We would like to share with you some of the achievements from this year.

## **Whole School Progress**

Below are the priorities we have been working towards during 2016/17 with notes and quotes to demonstrate how progress has been made:

### **1. Senior Leadership restructuring**

- Miss Wilson joined the school as Deputy Head teacher in January 2017.
- "Each leader knows what is expected of them, and what they can expect from others. They have complementary skills and, as a team, bring out the best in one another" – OFSTED April 2017

### **2. Further develop the structure and effectiveness of Middle Leadership**

- Subject leaders have been supported to monitor teaching and learning in their subject areas.
- "Skilled Subject leaders drive improvements in the quality of teaching and pupils' learning." "Subject leaders' impact is good. Each individual's expertise is used well..." OFSTED April 2017

### **3. Continue to raise the standards in Mathematics in Early Years and Year 1**

- "Basic mathematical skills are taught effectively. As a result, pupils calculate accurately and apply their knowledge confidently when figuring out how to solve problems." Ofsted 2017
- Year 1 Mathematics results have improved and average progress of pupils (Year 1 and EYFS) in Mathematics is good. A revised programme of early intervention is being planned for 2017/18 to support children who find aspects of the EYFS /Year 1 maths curriculum challenging.

### **4. Following the success of the Values Programme, further embed the Golden Rules and lunchtime provision.**

- "Noise in the dinner hall is improving thanks to the traffic light system and the school awards" Governor Visit to the School Council March 2017
- "The focus on behaviour at lunchtimes is having a positive impact on teaching and learning in the afternoons" Governor Visit March 2017
- "Pupils' behaviour has improved since the introduction of the current approach. They know the rules and usually stick to them. Pupils respond positively to the emphasis on rewards for doing the right thing." OFSTED April 2017.

## **5. Continue to raise the standards and progress of vulnerable pupils**

- "Standards from Reception to year 4 are rising because of improvements in tasks given to pupils and how they are taught" OFSTED April 2017
- "Pupils who speak English as an additional language do well overall. By the end of Year 4, these pupils achieve as well as their peers." OFSTED April 2017
- "Although many disadvantaged pupils make good progress, a few do not make the accelerated progress they need to catch up. This can be for several reasons, including relatively frequent absence from school." OFSTED April 2017

## **OFSTED**

In April we were visited by OFSTED and we are very proud of the grades received. Please find below the grades for each area in the OFSTED Common Inspection Framework. If you have not done so already we encourage all parents/carers to read the full report available by following the links on the school website. ([www.camestoneschool.co.uk](http://www.camestoneschool.co.uk))

Overall: Good

Leadership and Management: Good

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment: Good

Personal Development, Behaviour and Welfare: Good

Outcomes for Children: Good

Early Years Provision: Good

Whilst there were 3 recommendations from the inspection, we are confident that these can be addressed by minor changes to procedures.

We would like to thank the pupils and parents who met with the inspectors and those who took the time to complete the Ofsted questionnaires online.

The Governors are agreed that this is a fair and accurate report and reflects the school well. It could not have been achieved without the commitment and dedication of all staff.

**We would like to formally thank Mr Stanyard and all school staff for their hard work and determination in ensuring:**

**"Camestone Lower School has a real 'buzz' of purposeful learning and positive enjoyment"**

**Thank you.**

## **Attendance**

School Attendance for the year (Aug – June) is 95.65%. This is a slight improvement on last year's figures although the 0.59% of unauthorised absence has remained the same. National figures for Primary schools was 96.1% in 2016

One of the recommendations from the OFSTED report is – "Seek ways to improve the attendance of pupils who are regularly absent"

Ofsted identified a clear link between persistent absentees (those with less than 92% attendance) and lower than average academic progress. Therefore, the school will continue to develop ways to encourage good attendance and work with the Education Welfare Officer to support and challenge families whose children have poor attendance.

**Please ensure your children are in school and on-time (unless they are unwell). Children should be in the classrooms ready to learn at 8.50am.**

## **Pupil Progress and Attainment**

### **Early Years Foundation Stage (EYFS)**

Foundation Stage assessment is based on Early Learning Goals. Early Learning Goals are assessed in the key areas of Listening and Attention (Understanding, Speaking, Reading and Writing), Relationships (Self Confidence & Self Awareness and Managing Feelings & Behaviours), and Number (Shape, Space and Measures)

This year 31% of pupils started school at the 'typical' level of development or above. At the end of Foundation Stage 53% of pupils have reached a 'Good Level of Development' (based on Early Learning Goals). This compares with a 2016 Camestone figure of 48% and a 2016 national figure of 69%.

The OFSTED report notes the following : "Children in Early Years make good progress from starting points that are generally below, or well below, those typical for children of their age", "Some children, too, are not 'school ready'. This is sometimes because they have little or no previous experience of working and playing together in a setting"

We look at the progress the children have made during the year. Children are expected to make 3.5 points progress. On average this year Foundation children have made the following progress

Listening and Attention: 5.6 points progress

Relationships: 5.9 points progress

Number: 7 points progress

#### **Our congratulations go to the Foundation pupils for the excellent progress made.**

EYFS was moderated by Bedford Borough in May 2017. Moderation confirmed that judgements made by staff in the key areas are good. Quotes from the moderation report included:

"Excellent range of evidence".

"Practitioners have a thorough knowledge of children and their families"

"There is a strong child and family voice within the learning journals"

#### **Congratulations to all EYFS staff**

### **Key Stage 1 Results**

#### **Phonics Testing (Years 1 and 2)**

Phonics testing is a national test for year 1 pupils that requires them to read 40 real and nonsense words. The test is repeated in Year 2 for those who have not achieved the standard in Year 1.

Traditionally Year 1 results have been below national average at Camestone rising to national levels by year 2.

- Year 1 Phonics test results have risen to 73% Pass (68% in 2016). 2016 National (81%)
- For the 4<sup>th</sup> year in succession the phonics testing results have risen at Camestone in Year 1.
- Year 2 Phonics test results have risen to 90% Pass (88% in 2016) 2016 National. (91%)

## The Year 2 SATs Results

We are pleased to report the following results.

	% Achieving the expected level	2016 National Results
Reading	80%	74%
Writing	71%	65%
Maths	76%	73%
Science	80%	82%
Reading/Writing/Maths	69.5%	74%

### Congratulations to all Key Stage 1 pupils

#### Pupil Attainment - Years 1 – 4

At the end of Year 6 the National expectation is that 85% of pupils will be working at the 'expected' level. The figures below show the % of pupils currently working at the expected level for their age at Camestone. In addition, pupils make accelerated progress at Camestone as the % that enter the school 'below typical' in Foundation is high.

	% of Pupils working at the Expected Level or above 2016/17			The % working at the Expected Level (GLD) when they completed Foundation
	Reading	Writing	Maths	
Year 1	58%	58%	51%	48%
Year 2	80%	71%	76%	57%
Year 3	81%	83%	84%	59%
Year 4	79%	78%	79%	38%

**All pupils should be very proud of the progress they have made. Well done**

## Other News

### Conversion to Primary School

In June the Governing Body agreed to change the name of the school to Camestone School. This will take effect from 1<sup>st</sup> September 2017

In September 2017 we will accommodate year 5 pupils for the first time.

Significant developments have taken place since January. Below is a reminder of some of those changes, preparations and ongoing plans:

- A two storey building containing 4 classrooms has been built.
- Camestone is fully staffed with Primary Trained Teachers and Teaching Assistants for 2017/18.
- All teachers have the experience, specialism's and appropriate training required to deliver the full primary curriculum.
- The Foundation Stage play area is relocated to the front of the building.
- Foundation Stage have a covered outside learning space to support the EYFS curriculum requirements.
- The east entrance has been developed as the main school entrance for pupils and parents.

- A safety barrier at the road side will be installed at the East entrance. (currently planned for October 2017)
- The roadway at the east entrance provides improved pedestrian access and access for emergency vehicles.
- Extra cycle storage, including covered storage has been provided and is available at both entrances to support the school travel plan.
- The Staff Car Park has been redeveloped to provide additional marked spaces to reduce staff parking on Jowitt Avenue.
- Investment in an all-weather sports pitch on the main playing field and an all-weather artificial grassed area in the Foundation Play area. – To be installed summer 2017. These areas will be able to be used all year round and will enhance the PE curriculum as well as provide more physical activity opportunities at playtime. The pitch will also be available for inter-school competitions.
- The current provision of after school clubs is under review.
- Furniture and equipment have been purchased for years 3, 4 and 5. Resources to deliver the full primary curriculum have been identified and purchased.
- The Year 5 classrooms will be redecorated and equipped during the summer holiday.

We would like to extend a special thank you to Wilmott Dixon, all contractors, Bedford Borough and Pick Everard for ensuring the building project ran smoothly. Communication between the Wilmott Dixon Site Manager and school worked exceptionally well and ensured there was minimal disruption to the school day, any issues were quickly addressed, and Senior Leaders could remain focused on education.

We also would like to thank all parents/carers for their patience and understanding while the work was in progress.

### **Volunteers**

The Governing Body wish to take the opportunity to thank all the volunteers who support the school. This includes the PTFA, volunteers who listen to children read, parents/carers who are able to help on trips/events and the volunteers who help with site maintenance. Your support enables the school to enhance the children's experiences and enriches the education they receive. Thank you.

### **Governing Body Business.**

We have pleasure in welcoming Mr Martin Salter to the Governing Body from September 2017 as a Co-opted Governor. Martin is a Camestone parent and local church leader. He brings a wealth of experience of community involvement.

The Governing Body have agreed that in order to support the school effectively as it becomes Primary the Governing Body itself needs to grow. In September 2017 The Governing Body will increase by 2 members taking our total number to 12.

Mrs Julia Surman (Parent Governor) will become a Co-opted Governor from September to provide continuity for the Governing Body. This will create a Parent Governor vacancy.

Further information regarding vacancies will be issued in September.

**We wish all staff, pupils and their families a relaxing and enjoyable summer holiday.**