



30th January 2019

Dear Parents/Guardians

We are delighted to share the outcome of our recent Infant School Ofsted Inspection carried out on the 9th and 10th January 2019.

Our Infant School has been judged to be **'Good'** and the Inspectors have identified many strengths of the school, along with specific areas to develop. The complete report is on our school website and has been emailed to you. Should you require a paper copy, please do ask Mrs McLeary at the Infant School office.

Ofsted judgements are based on the following key areas, effectiveness of leadership and management; quality of teaching, learning and assessment; personal development, behaviour and welfare; outcomes for pupils and early years provision and then the school's overall effectiveness.

I am delighted that the report acknowledges the wonderful ethos of the school, highlighting the dedication of staff to keep pupils safe and ensure positive outcomes. It states, ***'The school is an inclusive, nurturing community in which pupils feel safe and are well cared for. Staff are well trained and vigilant in their safeguarding of pupils.'***

We have a wonderful school community, which was evident from discussions Inspectors had with all stakeholders. Our children are truly amazing and are very proud of being part of our school family. Inspectors felt that ***'Pupils behave well in lessons and play happily together...Pupils are polite, friendly and helpful and keen to chat about themselves and their school.'***

Thank you for your positive responses on 'Parent View' and for comments shared with the Inspectors in person. All contributions were valued and demonstrated the open communication between home and school. The report states that ***'...parents and carers are happy with the school's work and typically comment that 'this is a great school.'***

The inspection team spent time meeting with senior leaders, middle leaders (who have responsibility for specific subject areas) and Governors. They were very positive about school leadership and believe that we have already ***'identified the right actions to improve pupils' achievement.'*** ***'Leaders have been successful in improving teaching of phonics, reading and mathematics. Parental involvement in children's reading has improved greatly as a result of leaders' actions.'***

We are fortunate to have an effective Governing Body who work closely with all stakeholders and the wider community. The Inspectors met with them and described them as, ***'highly skilled in taking effective action to address areas for improvement.'*** I would like to thank the Governing Body for their support and giving generously of their time to ensure continued success.

In line with our continued efforts to strive for excellence, there are areas we need to focus on to improve. The inspection team felt that Leadership identified them early on in September 2018 and points of action were clearly identified in the School Development Plan 2018-19 and shared with parents in a newsletter. The Inspectors felt that whilst teaching and learning in Reception has improved, further development is needed. A considerable amount of pupils enter Nursery with skills below that of most pupils of their age. However, good progress is made and whilst there is progress in Reception, this requires further improvement.

We also need to establish greater consistency in addressing the needs of the higher ability pupils. Our outcomes at the end of Key Stage 1 are good and by continuing to address the needs of more able pupils, those with special educational needs and the progress in Reception, our outcomes can and will be higher.

Pupils' attendance still remains below the national average, '**despite the efforts of staff and leaders**'. The most effective way to address this issue is to urge you, as parents, to ensure your child attends school every day and is punctual. Understandably, pupils do get ill and are not able to attend school, but please do work with us to improve our overall attendance.

The full Ofsted report is available on our school website and will go live on the Ofsted website on Thursday, 31st January 2019. Please do make time to read it and should you have any questions, please do come and see me.

We have an amazing school and a wonderful, unique community. Our success and future achievements are built on the hard work and commitment of staff, governors, pupils and parents, those who are currently at the school and those who have been here in past years.

It is said that '*success is not created by one person, but by many people who come together and work as a team.*' I think that our successes, to date and our future achievements, will be guaranteed by us continuing to work closely together.

I would like to thank my staff in the Nursery, Infant and Junior schools for their hard work and most importantly for their commitment to always placing a child's wellbeing and success at the centre of what they do.

Thank you to you as parents for your support and belief in us to achieve the best for your child.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Fernandes
Headteacher

Headteacher: Mrs Fernandes

The Federation of St. Joseph's Catholic Junior, Infant and Nursery Schools

Infants & Nursery

Crown Dale, London SE19 3NX

T: 020 8670 2385 F: 020 8670 0420

E: office@st-josephs-inf.croydon.sch.uk

Juniors

Woodend, London SE19 3NU

T: 020 8653 7195 F: 020 8653 0807

E: office@st-josephs-jun.croydon.sch.uk