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Head Teacher Mrs Catherine Carr
Deputy Head Mrs Sandra Doyle

13th October 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Ofsted Report

I am delighted to inform you that following our recent one day Ofsted inspection, school has been judged to be **maintaining the good quality of education seen at the previous inspection**. The full report can be found on the website at huntersbarinfantschool.co.uk in **About Us/Ofsted**. Please find the key highlights below.

The inspector, Janet Lunn, said that school has '...created a positive culture of learning for both pupils and staff.' We '...set high standards for how we want staff to conduct themselves and have created a safe environment where everyone is valued. Staff are enthusiastic, welcoming, approachable and open to new challenges, and pupils are well supported, happy and love coming to school. Parents and carers value the special atmosphere school has created.'

She saw that we have '...pushed forward improvements across the school and built on the strengths identified during the previous inspection' and '... staff are happy and enthusiastic and standards are high. Staff morale is high and everyone works together towards the same vision'.

'Governors bring a wealth of professional expertise, strengths and skills, which further enhance the effectiveness of the leadership team... They are able to hold leaders fully accountable and work closely with leaders to maintain the high standard of education'

'The performance of boys has improved since the last inspection ... boys are now fully engaged in their learning and as a result, they are making rapid progress.'

'Parents are particularly positive about all aspects of the school. They praise the way in which teachers build children's self-confidence and go out of their way to support individual needs. Parents appreciate the breadth and balance of the school curriculum, the range of after-school clubs and the homework on offer ...Parents are kept well informed, know their children are safe and are encouraged to reach their potential.'

'Provision in the early years is a key strength of the school ... Teachers have ensured that children ... feel valued and confident. As a result, children settle quickly and are highly involved and engaged in their learning. Activities on offer encourage independence, resilience and communication. Consequently, children are happy and eager to learn.'

'Pupils move smoothly into Key Stage Two because you have formed stronger links with the junior school,' and '... Pupils who have special educational needs and/or disabilities are well supported at the school.' 'The employment of a learning mentor has been particularly successful in addressing some attendance issues ... Her work is also valuable in working with families and outside agencies to support particular needs.'

The inspection findings are:

- 'At the end of Early Years ... The number of children achieving a good level of development has risen over the last three years and remains above the national average... Children leave the Early years well prepared for learning in Year One.'
- 'Outcomes in Phonics ... continue to rise and the 2017 outcomes are the strongest the school has seen over the last three years.'
- 'Reading outcomes at the end of Key Stage One are well above those seen nationally. A higher proportion of pupils than seen nationally are working at greater depth because teachers have high expectations and give reading high priority.'
- 'Outcomes in writing improved this year ... across the whole school ... Standards are high.'
- In maths, '... a strong focus ... has led to improvements in the number of pupils meeting the expected standard and achieving greater depth.'
- 'The school curriculum is well developed. Pupils enjoy a wide range of subjects enhanced by visits and visitors ... Work in physical education is well developed and teachers receive high quality training ... The wide range of extra-curricular activities on offer provides pupils with a rich and varied curriculum.'

The inspector identified the **next steps** for school. She said that school should ensure that:

- 'Teachers plan learning that matches the needs of the different groups of pupils within their class ..'
- 'The attainment and progress of pupils who speak English as an additional language or who are from Black and minority ethnic groups continues to improve.'

If you have any questions about the report please do get in touch. Most importantly we want to thank you, your children, our staff team and governors for your support for the school. The Hunter's Bar Infant School community can feel really proud!

Yours sincerely,

Catherine Carr
Head Teacher