



Jessie Younghusband School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

Governor's Newsletter – June 2019

I wrote to you in March of this year regarding the school's successful Ofsted visit and subsequent report. This letter is my annual opportunity to bring you up to date with the governor's perspective on all the exciting things that have been happening at our lovely Jessie Younghusband Primary school.

It is with very great pleasure that I am able to report to you on the continuing successes of the children at the school and the significant impact of the hard work and superb effort delivered by the whole school staff. It is always a pleasure to visit the school to talk to the children and admire how confident, polite and well behaved they are.

As you know, the recent Ofsted report confirmed and supported Mrs Sadler's analysis that the school is a 'Good' school. Importantly, when you read the report in comparison to other 'good' schools, it is quite evident that the inspectors considered the JYS to be rather more than just good and wrote about the school in glowing terms. I have been chairman of the JYS for 20 years, and naturally feel some responsibility for the 6 Ofsted reports that have been undertaken during that time. It is a source of real pride that the school continues to aspire to the highest of standards. As explained in the letter to you in March this year, the school is delighted with the outcomes of this most recent report amongst other things it recognised the effectiveness of the school's leadership as well as the richness and depth of the broad and balanced curriculum at the JYS. This is something that the new Ofsted framework, taking effect from this September, will be seeking to encourage other schools to achieve.

The recent parental questionnaire has produced some interesting indicators for the school to consider. It is most pleasing to see so many positive and supportive comments. The task of teaching is very demanding and the JYS team clearly take their responsibilities very seriously. I must thank those of you who have been so generous in your praise because it is so important to the morale of the whole staff team and a great motivator.

The school has enjoyed its really good maths week this term and the resulting developments have indicated a significant improvement in outcomes across the school. This area of work has been very much at the fore-front of the school's thinking and the impact of the work undertaken in this area of school development is now becoming evident. It has been wonderful to hear how many parents have been involved in this as well, both as volunteers in school supporting children's learning and also by coming in during the maths week to explain to the children about how maths is important in their working life.



It is a particular pleasure to me to see how the development of sport at the school has grown under the excellent leadership of Mr Neaves, our Deputy Headteacher, and the school's effective use of the Sports Premium Grant. The many and varied opportunities available to the children is tremendous and a great credit to the school.

The success of the children is something we are all very proud of. You will be interested to know that the school is looking at ways it can broaden the opportunities given to the children in other curriculum areas next year. This will be a challenge, given the limited resources available to the school, but one that is an important priority to address.

The time has come for me to retire as your Chairman of Governors. I will be stepping down from the governing body at the end of this term and I know that I am leaving the school in very good shape. Indeed, the governing body has a staggering amount of experience and expertise between them. I am very pleased that a succession plan is in place for the governing body to formally agree at their next meeting in July and details will be confirmed to you shortly after that. It has given me great pleasure to have had such a long and happy involvement with the Jessie Younghusband school. I shall hope to maintain some continued association with the school through participation on educational visits and, in particular, the Year 5 camp and the Year 6 residential.

As usual, many of the school's governors will be in attendance at the various events towards the end of this term and I know they would be happy to answer any questions you might have. Alternatively, you can contact the chair of governors through the school office or by email at governors@jys.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading 'Martin Tomlinson', on a light grey rectangular background.

Martin Tomlinson MBE JP
Chair of Governors