

17th December 2014

Pauline Wood
Headteacher
Grange Park Primary School
Swan Street
SUNDERLAND
SR5 1EA

Dear Pauline,

As we approach the Christmas holiday period, I have been reflecting on the highs and lows of the past term. One of the definite highlights was the visit that I made to your school on 25th November. Thank you very much for making me feel so welcome and for giving your time to tell me all about the school and to share your views on a wide range of issues.

As we walked around the building, I was very impressed by the calm and purposeful atmosphere, the way in which every child was actively engaged in what they were doing, the positive relationships that were evident between the staff and the children, the bright, cheerful and stimulating environment and the highly imaginative use of every available space (indoors and outdoors). It was clear that your own vision, drive and tenacity have been instrumental in achieving great things with your pupils, not all of whom have had the best start in life, and that you have also built a strong team of talented and dedicated staff. I was also struck by the school's strong commitment to initial teacher training through its leadership of the Blue Sky Consortium and by the impressive range of awards and accolades received by the school.

Please pass on my appreciation to your colleagues and to your wonderful pupils. You can all feel justifiably proud of your outstanding school.

I hope that you all enjoy a great Christmas and that 2015 is another successful year for the school.

Best wishes,



Austin McNamara
Associate Director - Education