Dear Parents & Carers

Looking back on my previous end of term letters it seems hard to believe that it is time for me, once again to put ‘pen to paper’, to use an old adage! I for one cannot believe that next week we will all be looking forward to Santa coming down the chimney and settling down at 3pm to watch another Queens Christmas message. If you recollect this time last year it definitely felt like Christmas as we had all been put in the Christmas mood by the arrival of some snow, in fact quite a lot of snow!

At this time of year we all receive a few letters from friends inside the Christmas card, or increasingly more likely an email, which summarise the last year and then extol the virtues of little ‘Johnny’ or ‘Mary’ and explain how they have passed their grade 8 piano at their 1st attempt, sung in the local cathedral to a 1000 people, or been selected for the Stoke City youth squad . Having received such a letter it got me thinking about what to put in this letter. I decided that maybe we should celebrate/brag about what we have achieved as a school family.

Nicola has shared with you the additional activities that have taken place this term, such as fundraising for Zac, Children in Need and Jeans for Genes and the Christmas performances which are always well supported by families, friends and carers. These events make NJS a special place and should be celebrated by us all. In addition the recent results from the End of Key Stage 2, and indeed the SATS results from earlier in the year, should also be celebrated as they show how we are exceeding the National Average. These results are down to the whole NJS Team which includes: firstly the pupils who have worked so hard, the staff who have provided the pupils with a learning environment for them to thrive, the PTA for providing those additional funds that enrich the school environment, Parents and Carers who have supported the children throughout the year, and I must take some credit (If only a little!) for the Governing Body who have acted as the Critical Friend to the school by getting behind the data and assuring you that the Teaching Staff are driving the school forward. The Governing Body has this year has gone from strength to strength due to us now having a full Governing Body, which includes the arrival of the Reverend Merry to the Governing Body.

On behalf of the Governing Body and yourselves I would like to thank all the Teaching Staff for their continued dedication to the pupils of Newport Junior School and congratulate them all on what we have achieved this year, a year which we should all celebrate, and a year of consolidation and building for the continued success of NJS. We can now all look forward to 2019 and another full and challenging year for NJS, one in which I am convinced we will see the school continue to develop and grow under the tutelage of Mrs Moody, Mr Rotherham, and the teaching staff.

Finally, I would like to thank you for your continued support of the school and I hope you all enjoy the Christmas holidays, with or without snow, and I wish you all a Happy New Year.

L D Boardman

Chair of Governors