

Wednesday 20th December 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

The Autumn Term has raced by.....we have been pretty busy with inspections, epic theatre productions and end of term festivities. It's never quiet at the Blossom Federation and we love it! Overleaf is an update letter from Will Emms, our Chair of Governors. Will joined us for Christmas Lunch at Daubeney last week. He was very impressed with the quality of the lunch. As was I.....I've eaten five!

Here are a few snaps of our end of term events. These have been really well supported by our friends and family. We hope you have enjoyed all that has been on offer. Look out or our third annual Christmas Video Single which will be sent to you on Thursday and will feature a celebration of happy seasonal photos.

Wishing you all a very restful Christmas Break. I hope you enjoy spending quality time with your loved ones. Be safe and well and I look forward to seeing you all on Tuesday 9th January 2024!



Yours sincerely,

Robin Warren

Executive Head Teacher



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Dear Parents & Carers

Well, what a year 2023 has been for the Blossom Federation.

Towards the end of the summer term, Lauriston and Daubeney achieved Platinum OPAL awards having transformed their outdoor spaces into exciting and challenging places for the children.

Then in July, having been expecting the call, but also feeling the weight of the summer term almost being over, Ofsted called Lauriston. The school were ready, and the federation was also ready to support them to confidently and ably demonstrate the day-to-day quality education they provide to the Lauriston children. To finish the term with a confirmed 'Good' judgement for the school was a fantastic way to step into the summer.

We started the Autumn term with the expectation that Daubeney would soon get the Ofsted call, but it was Colvestone that were visited first at the beginning of October. Building on the experience at Lauriston Mr Warren, Mr Shamji and other Federation staff were able to support Miss Lucey and the Colvestone team to once again demonstrate the quality of education that the Blossom Federation aspires to, another 'Good' judgement in the bag.

There was huge excitement across the Federation about the Windrush celebration event at the Hackney Empire. All 4 schools across the Federation had worked so hard in preparation for the evening, so when Ofsted made the call to Daubeney on the morning of the show, well, the show had to go on! It was testament to the strength of the Federation leadership, the community across the schools and the commitment to keeping the show on the road, that those Daubeney staff not involved in the event calmly prepared for the next day, while the others brought together an extraordinary celebration of Black History and the diversity of our school communities.

It could have felt like bad timing, but I felt like it couldn't have been better for Ofsted to have arrived the day after the event, the energy it had created, palpable in the school and the community, a perfect way of demonstrating what the Blossom Federation is about. This being the 3rd Ofsted in almost as many months, we were able to take advantage of our experiences, alongside all the hard work and preparation, and once again demonstrate what we do so well, a 3rd 'Good' judgement secured, with 'Outstanding' for personal development. A massive achievement for the school.

I'm so proud of all the staff across the Federation, all their hard work and commitment to the children in the schools that we have achieved one of our Governing Board priorities to have all our schools judged as at least 'Good'. However, we are still ambitious and are now talking about the road to 'Outstanding'.

And if that were not enough to celebrate, Mr Warren recently achieved his National Professional Qualification for Executive Leadership and Ms Corpe her National Professional Qualification for Headship, building their capability and strengthening the leadership of the Federation.

However, the year has ended on a down note, with confirmation that Colvestone will be closing at the end of this year. As part of the wider Blossom community, we are committed to supporting the staff, the children, and the school community through this difficult time and onto what comes next for them.

As we reach the last few days of term, I hope you've been able to attend some of the Christmas productions and Winter Fairs to get into the seasonal spirit. It really has been quite a year, with so much to celebrate, I feel like everyone deserves a great break. I'm excited and ambitious for what we'll achieve in 2024. Have a fantastic holiday. Onwards!

Will Emms

Chair of Governors
Blossom Federation

