



Orchard Weekly Bulletin 22nd July 2019



Mr Cook and Mrs Austin's Retirement and Orchard's latest 'Outstanding' Grading

Just three more days now for both Mr Cook and Mrs Austin before retirement beckons. If we get a little emotional over the next few days it is because Orchard School means so much to both of us. Thanks to each and every one of you for making our time at Orchard so very special. Thanks also to our amazing Year 6 pupils and any other children who are moving on from Orchard this summer. Always remember:

'Once an Orchard Boy or Girl..... Always an Orchard Boy or Girl!'

On another matter I can now officially inform you of the outcome of our Notts L.A. School Inspection which took place on Thursday 20th June 2019. The inspection was carried out by Mr Tim Nelson (very experienced Ofsted Inspector with over 400 UK school inspections under his belt). The final inspection report states that against the current Ofsted Inspection framework, Orchard remains an 'outstanding' school. In the final six page report, amongst many other positive judgments, he made the following statement which I believe sums up our school very nicely:

"Pupils' attitudes and behaviour are exemplary with their politeness and conduct as strong as in any school this E.I.A. (Education Inspection Adviser) has visited in the whole country."

Orchard was first graded as 'outstanding' during its Ofsted Inspection in 2007. In the interim, we have had two further inspections by H.M.I. (Her Majesty's Inspectorate) in 2009 and 2013 and an earlier Notts L.A. School Inspection in January 2015. In all three of these interim inspections we were graded as outstanding. To receive our most recent 'outstanding' grading, just a month before my retirement, feels very special indeed. I'm so pleased that Mrs Chambers and Mrs Tilstone are taking over as HT and Dep HT from September. Whilst I understand that they will do things slightly differently to me, I feel that the heart of our school and the great level of consistency and continuity at Orchard will continue on into the future under their caring leadership.

Ben's Big Bike Ride 5

Wow - what an amazing day we had on Thursday with a team of 22 cyclists completing Ben's Big Bike Ride 5. They set off from Orchard to lots of cheers and well wishes from all of the pupils. They returned after completing 35 miles of 'The Five Pits Trail' to more cheers During the Teddy Bear's Picnic. A HUGE congratulations to all of the participants. What a fabulous legacy for Mr.Cook to leave behind.



All children in school also completed their sponsored bike/ scooter laps last week too. Please remember to send in your sponsor money to the school office as soon as possible.

Teddy Bear's Picnic

What a delight it was seeing the school so full on Thursday with many families enjoying our annual Teddy Bear's Picnic. Huge thanks to Mrs. Walton, Mrs. Howbrook and the Orchard PTA for organising the event. We managed to raise a wonderful £1000!



Happyland

Are you having a summer toy clear out? Do you have any unwanted Happyland toys? If so please see Mrs.Mee as we can use them to enhance our Key Stage One provision areas. Thanks in advance.

Retirement Well Wishes

On behalf of all of the staff we are sure you will join us in wishing Mrs. Austin and Mr.Cook a fabulous retirement. They will both be sorely missed at Orchard and we look forward to hearing about the adventures that they will be having in retirement.



