



**Kingsmead
School**

Elizabeth Sanger

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Your ref:

Our ref: LS/JF

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Dear Kingsmead Families and Carers

As we approach the end of this long Autumn Term, it is hard to believe that Christmas is only a few days away. This term has flown by and despite the challenge of arctic blasts and the days feeling shorter and far too dark, it has been busy and productive for all year groups.

The past seven weeks have been marked by further events and invitations to parents and carers to come into school. Our year seven and ten pupils had their first parents' events of the year and at the time of writing, we are busy tidying up after our first Christmas Coffee morning which was well attended by parents/carers from across all year groups. On the 11th December we held our first Kingsmead Awards Event – a celebration of our fantastic pupils' achievements and outcomes from last academic year.

It was a privilege to welcome families and carers to the first event of its kind for our school, and to welcome back some of last year's pupils who are now in year 12 and attending their different P16 provisions. In previous years we ran 'Reading Awards' events but due to circumstances beyond our control earlier this year – the closure of our Wisgreaves building – this annual event was postponed, so we took the opportunity this autumn to go bigger and better.

The children who were able to attend *and* all those pupils nominated to receive an award, demonstrated critical elements of our school values of RESPECT:

They have recognised their 'responsibility to self' to apply themselves to their learning, on their personal learning journeys with us.

They have been empowered to take on new learning challenges, and potentially get things wrong along the way, realising it's OK to make mistakes in their learning and move on from them with better understanding.

They have hit personal learning targets and met or exceeded the expectations that they have put upon themselves or targets we have supported them to ambitiously work towards.

They have had consistent attitudes towards learning: being in class, attending all lessons and applying themselves to their learning.



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The dedicated staff who work tirelessly day in and day out to provide pupils with positive educational experiences, recognise the achievements of *all* our pupils, day after day. While there is a limit to how many pupils can be nominated for awards, I have no doubt that next year there will be even more pupils, and their families/carers invited for even more certificates and prizes. We are proud of you all!

With a visit to the panto, theatre trip to see 'A Christmas Carol' and Christmas Dinner to fit in before we break up, as the term draws to a close, it is important to reflect on how far we have come as a school community. It has been wonderful reading the minutes of our KS3 and KS4 pupil council meetings held this half-term and I am excited to see further school developments as a result of their insightful thoughts and wishes.

As always, please continue to visit our school website for updates and information we share, that include snapshots of the different experiences and events on offer to your child/children.

Have a restful break over the Christmas period. We very much look forward to the New Year and all the opportunities it brings to bear.

Kindest regards,

Elizabeth Sanger

Liz Sanger, Headteacher