

July 2010

Almost before we know it we've reached the end of another school year. And as always the summer term has been a buzzing, but brilliant time.

We've had our upper school entertain us with a wonderful production of *Rats*. Lowdham School has won a *Chance to Shine* cricket tournament, the team gold medal in a Gedling Borough Athletics tournament. Children have competed in basketball and football matches, sometimes winning, sometimes not, but enjoying the experience. We've had school trips and visits. The Gala and discos were terrific – a huge thanks to Friends and all who helped.

And we've finished on the Induction evening for new classes, which I attended to question parents for feedback on how we're doing in addition to the questionnaire that's sent home annually. Some of the comments were: 'The staff are excellent and dedicated.' 'It's the best school in the area.' 'My son's had a great time here – he doesn't want to leave' (not my own, but he feels exactly the same). There's a strong, caring, Christian ethos and children make friendships for life.

Our Year Sixes worked really hard with Mrs Grey and maintained our achievement with SATs. We've just found out that although we're just about due for a visit, OFSTED won't be coming until at least September 2011. In a way Mrs Rattenberry and I are a little disappointed. Our last OFSTED judgement was *Good*, but we now have a evaluation of *Outstanding*, and I think we deserve it. We wanted the validation.

Although summer is hectic, staff – not just teachers but teaching assistants, middays, catering staff, the Site Manager, After School and office staff– work hard to give children a happy, safe and secure learning environment all year round. The Christmas productions – Key Stage 1 and 2 – have been lovely and the school choir has performed at *The Corner House* in Nottingham and to the local community.

Well done to all staff and children, and thank you for all your parental support. Education is all about teamwork and I think we work well in making Lowdham a school of which we are proud.

Happy holidays to all and Good Luck to our leavers.

From Julie Vickery,
Chair of Governors.