

Dear Families and Carers,

As another school year comes to a close I would like to thank you, our families for your continued support and patience. Schools can not do the job they do without the support of our families. It is absolutely vital to our work with our children. This partnership between the schools and our families is something to celebrate and nurture.

I would also like to thank our wonderful leaders and staff of all our schools. It often seems that they are asked to do more with less. It is a constant juggling act. Yet they constantly offer our children innovative and exciting ways to engage them in their learning, making the experiences of school fun and memorable. They continue to provide wonderful learning environments in which our children thrive. This is very much appreciated.

Schools have been faced with tight budgets and expanding SEN needs. This presents so many difficulties for families and staff as they work together to find a path through what is an arcane and confusing system. The timescales are frustratingly slow for all concerned. I appreciate the patience and dedication of all involved in getting the right support in place.

I would like to congratulate Brunton First School, Archbishop Runcie Church of England, Archibald First School and Gosforth Park First School on their successful Ofsted. It's a tribute to our schools hard work and dedication.

The leaders and all staff have put wellbeing at the centre of all they do. Our children are being supported to be the best they can be. The importance of this cannot be overestimated. Happy and fulfilled children are what we all strive to have in our schools. I would like to personally thank head teachers and all our staff for their hard work this year. It is nothing short of Outstanding.

I hope that you will be able to enjoy some time with family and friends over the summer and return refreshed for the challenges that are undoubtedly ahead. We are at our strongest when we work together. All our schools are unique and exceptional and we must celebrate this

I look forward to working with you all next year and thank you for continued support.

Karen Elliott
Chair of the GST