

Wednesday 16th July 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of what has been a truly extraordinary year, I want to take a moment to reflect and celebrate all that our school community has achieved together. This academic year has brought with it moments of triumph, challenge, and inspiration—each of which has helped shape an unforgettable chapter in the life of Holmer.

We began the year still feeling the ripples of the past few years, only to be met by the unexpected trials of four separate flooding events. These could have overwhelmed a less united community, but thanks to the extraordinary resilience of our children, the unwavering dedication of our staff, and the unbreakable support of our parents and local community, we not only recovered—we thrived.

When OFSTED visited, they recognised Holmer as an "inspirational school" where "pupils' love for learning is sparked". Inspectors praised the "enthusiasm and passion" of our staff and the "deep sense of belonging" fostered throughout the school community. Despite the challenges of the repeated flooding, they noted that we have "continued to deliver high-quality education", with all pupils making "significant progress through the curriculum". Our commitment to reading, global awareness, and respectful relationships was also celebrated, with pupils described as "well prepared for the next stage of their education" and "confident and diligent" young leaders. These affirmations are a powerful reflection of the dedication, resilience, and values that define Holmer.

These qualities were echoed again in our SIAMS inspection, where the school was praised for how it lives its Christian vision. The inspectors beautifully captured our spirit, writing: "Pupils and adults flourish... inspired and driven to 'create a better world'."

Throughout the year, our pupils have continued to shine. Their love for learning, positive behaviour, and kindness have stood out. It is an honour to lead a school described as "a welcoming and respectful school community" where "staff go above and beyond" and pupils "shine as individuals." Your children—our children—are at the heart of everything we do

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On Friday, we say goodbye to our incredible Year 6 pupils, who are now ready to begin their next journey at their secondary schools: we are so proud of the independent, thoughtful, and well-rounded young people they have become. They have shown leadership, courage, kindness and empathy—characteristics that will serve them well in the years to come. They leave behind a legacy of positivity and achievement, and we wish them all the success and joy that lies ahead.

We also say goodbye to a number of staff. Mrs Preissler, who has greeted everyone with positivity and kindness in the front office, is off to pursue a new career in travel. We wish her well in all her adventures and look forward to postcards from near and far. Miss Jones, who has been supporting in Year 6 is also off on adventures. We are excited to hear where her travels take her. And Mrs Hiden, who in recent years has supported and welcomed our youngest pupils into reception, is off to pastures new and new adventures await for her too. We are incredibly grateful for all their contributions in making our school exceptional. They will be missed!

The sound of bells and confetti flying will also be part of some staff's holiday celebrations. We wish our warmest congratulations to Mr Rivers and Miss Pugh, who are getting married; to Miss Davies, who supports in Year 6; and to Miss Thomas who supports in Year 4. We hope they all have a wonderful day of love and celebration at their respective weddings and wish them a lifetime of happiness.

To every child, parent, carer, and member of staff—thank you. Thank you for your trust, your encouragement, and for walking alongside us through every challenge and celebration.

As we now step into the summer holidays, I hope each and every one of you finds time to rest, recharge, and create special memories with loved ones. Whether you are travelling far or enjoying the comforts of home, may this break bring you peace, joy, and sunshine. We look forward to welcoming the children back for the start of the Autumn Term on Wednesday 3rd September.

Kind regards

RJ Maund Jayne Maund

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