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Monday 26th February 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

I am writing to share celebratory news with you that recognises the outstanding arts provision we have in place at our school. Following a detailed application process, evidence collection period and subsequent evaluation and assessment, Oak Meadow Primary School has been awarded the prestigious Artsmark Gold Award.



Artsmark is the only creative quality standard for schools that is accredited by the Arts Council for England. The award we have received recognises settings that celebrate the arts and cultural education across the whole curriculum by bringing learning to life for children and young people. To achieve the Artsmark Gold Award, we have demonstrated to the Arts Council how the arts and cultural provision are embedded as part of a broad and ambitious curriculum.

As ever, I am bursting with pride for the school following this national recognition and thankful for the part every stakeholder contributes to ensure the very best opportunities for our children. From the diverse and creative lessons children receive daily to our stellar enrichment events such as 'A Million Dreams', this accolade showcases our magnificent work and high standards we have built.

I would like to express my gratitude to you as parents, carers and families for how you encourage your child's creativity and champion every innovation we implement. Any school is the mirror of the community it serves with success empowered by the strong relationships we have built over time – thank you for your unwavering support.

I would also like to take the opportunity to thank every member of staff at our school for their dedication and imaginative approach towards teaching and learning. The arts are driven through all facets of the curriculum thanks to careful provision mapping from school leaders and then into the classroom where teachers plan to ensure an inclusive entitlement for every child. I am thankful to our Governing Board for all of their contributions, with challenge and support in equal measure, providing rigour to curriculum processes and to all volunteers from the Friends of Oak Meadow who have provided help when needed for enrichment events.

From tiny acorns **mighty oaks** grow...



Inevitably, at Oak Meadow we never stand still and I now look forward with positivity to future learning advancements. In the Summer term (week commencing 20th May) we have already started planning for this year's IMPACT and enrichment week, 'This is me' – watch this space! Furthermore, our capacity to develop and grow further has greatly benefitted over the last twelve months thanks to our partnership with St. Bartholomew's CE Multi-Academy Trust. We are working very closely with leaders and partner schools across the Trust to share best practice focusing upon the latest research and exciting technological expansions at the cutting-edge of 21st century learning.

Well done again to everyone who is part of the Oak Meadow Family for achieving the Artsmark Gold Award. In my humble and unbiased opinion, **our children are the very best** - their originality and creativity in the arts and all that they do has the recognition it most definitely deserves!

Yours faithfully,

Mr. Lane (Interim Head of School).

