

# From “Special Measures” to “Outstanding” in 4 years

## PRESS RELEASE

### June 09 2009

Sutton Benger Primary School in North Wiltshire is celebrating after being judged “Outstanding” by Ofsted.

The inspectors, who visited on May 20<sup>th</sup>, praise the dynamic leadership shown by Head teacher Suzanne Lloyd and Deputy Head Abby Rayner since they joined the school just after it was put into Special Measures in 2005: “The headteacher gives an exemplary lead and is well supported by senior colleagues and as a result pupils' academic achievement and personal development are exceptionally good.”

Their report also praises the outstanding quality of teaching and learning, the outstanding curriculum, outstanding achievement and standards and outstanding behaviour of all the pupils.

Head teacher Suzanne Lloyd says “This is fantastic news for the whole school community as it places us amongst the most highly performing schools nationally. This is a huge achievement which is as a result of the hard work that has taken place in school over the last four years by a talented and dedicated team of staff; committed and supportive governors and parents; and most importantly of all, our 130 enthusiastic and motivated learners.”

Chair of Governors Rod Moor-Bardell says, “I am delighted the Inspectors have recognised the hard work of staff, pupils, parents, current and past governors. Congratulations are due to Suzanne Lloyd and her team who have brought the school so far in just four years. I look forward to the school maintaining and developing on what is now a very strong foundation. The imagination, creativity and energy at the school is very evident and we can be proud of our children and their achievements.”

The school is planning a special treat for the pupils on Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> June, when a helicopter will fly over the playing field and take photos of the children making a symbol of heart and hands before landing to allow the pilots to conduct an assembly with them.

Later in the afternoon, at 3pm, there will be a balloon release, where parents and friends will join staff, pupils and governors to celebrate the outstanding Ofsted.

The occasion will continue to be marked throughout the summer with a whole of school trip planned and an Evening of Celebration will take place at the school on 30<sup>th</sup> June to allow the community to reflect on the achievement.

Ends

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#### Note to Editors:

- Reporters and photographers are welcome, by prior arrangement, at the school for both the helicopter assembly at 9.00am and the balloon release at 3pm
- The children will be making the images of heart and hands to reflect the school's vision statement “Where hands create, hearts are cherished, thought is inspired and learning flourishes”
- Sutton Benger School has 127 pupils in 5 classes (Unicorn, Mermaid, Pegasus, Phoenix and Griffin)
- The school recently became the first in Wiltshire to host a Community Cohesion evening – inviting representatives from the Village Hall Committee, Pre-School, Parish Council and PCC to discuss ways in which pupils from the school can get even more actively involved in village life.