Dear Rachel,

I was delighted to meet you today, along with your staff and pupils. Thank you so much for the very warm and friendly welcome I received, even from the school dog!

The sense of 'family' is evident throughout the school,  demonstrated by the way in which adults and pupils relate to one another,( and to visitors) with respect and kindness. The school Golden Rule- 'Treat others as you would like to be treated' is clearly put into practice.

I particularly enjoyed the tour of the school and was interested to see displayed, your school Christian Values and your Vision, based on Luke 8:5-8 and Jeremiah 17:7-8- 'Trusting in God together, we live, learn and grow'. The school website highlights how the whole school community,( family) including parents and governors, were involved in the development and implementation of the school vision and core Christian values.

I was delighted to have the opportunity to talk with some of your pupils. They were extremely polite and engaged as they spoke in great depth about the 'Experience Christmas' event you had put on in church. They were able to clearly articulate the message and symbolism of each stage of the Nativity story.

I was pleased to talk with the Worship Group and very impressed by the way in which they were able to explain how they plan and deliver worship once a week and also invite other children to participate. Their next step is to work on the evaluation of Collective Worship. They were able to tell me about the I Sing Pop/The Pop Box, which they really enjoy and would like to develop its use in the near future. The children spoke of the importance placed on respect between each other.

From our conversation, it was clear that the children really enjoy being part of Haresfield. They love their trips to the woods, the Christmas party, the many clubs, the Reward Raffle and are very fond of all their teachers!

To lead and run a small village school as this involves a tremendous amount of hard work and commitment. Rachel- you work tirelessly to go above and beyond to provide the very best for your whole school community, enabling them to flourish in a respectful, caring Christian environment.

I do hope you are able to give yourself some well earned rest and breathing space over the Christmas holiday.

I look forward to visiting the school again on Thursday 14th March at 1.30pm

With best wishes

Caroline Gilderdale

( Bishop's Visitor)