## Dear

We've spent October celebrating you – the incredible children of foster carers who play a vital role in supporting children in foster care.

I want to take a moment to thank you for everything you do to make the children joining your family feel safe, valued and loved. As a child of foster carers, you contribute so much to the lives of children in care, and your kindness, patience, and understanding are very much appreciated.

Being part of a fostering family is no small task. It requires flexibility, compassion, and a willingness to share your home and family. You've opened your heart to children who need it most, offering them friendship and support when they are at their most vulnerable.

I have some very fond memories of working with children of foster carers. Many years ago I helped set up a peer support group for children of foster carers. As I spent time with the group, I learned the highs and lows of growing up in a fostering family and saw how you go above and beyond to ensure children in foster care feel loved.

Your efforts help create a safe, loving environment where foster children can feel secure and valued. The way you welcome them, show them patience as they adjust, and stand by them during difficult moments makes a world of difference in their lives. Your support helps them heal, grow, and feel like they belong.

On behalf of everyone at The Fostering Network and the wider fostering community, I want to say a huge thank you. Your contribution to fostering is invaluable, and your actions are changing lives for the better. Thank you for all that you do.

Sarah Thomas

Chief Executive of The Fostering Network



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