

Message from Mr Merry

Welcome back – I hope everyone had a good half term.

Firstly, I want to acknowledge the massive achievement that you've made as families during this unprecedented time to support our school and community. Thank you for all your support with the home schooling and Key Workers. This has been achieved on the basis of collaboration with each other, with the Trust, DFE, LA and with staff/governors/board members.

As we start the very gradual return to a 'new normal' it is important we look back and recognise the many positives from what has been without doubt a tragic and challenging time. It has been heartening to see the public recognition of the significant contribution that schools have made to our local areas. The support we have shared in with the local community and the education sector in general is a demonstration of teams working together for the wellbeing and benefit of the children in our schools.

All of this work would be impossible without the support of our governors, trust board and all those within your governance arrangements who volunteer their time; I would like, too, to extend my appreciation and thanks to them. The challenge and support these colleagues bring is invaluable, they generously volunteer their time and their contribution to public service is immense.

As we look forward to the new academic year, I fully appreciate that there is still much that is uncertain. The planning for a full school return of all pupils. It is important that we work together to enable as many children as possible to return to school within the guidance and to benefit from the great education that our Schools and our Trust can provide.

The next few weeks and months ahead will undoubtedly be an anxious time for many, both personally and professionally, and it will take some time to adjust to another 'new normal'. I know that the staff and your families will be doing everything you can to support, to protect and to build confidence. Thank you so much for everything that you do and are doing and the difference that it makes.

School Updates

I am pleased to announce that we have appointed Mrs Kirkham as our office administrator and we welcome her to the team. I know that Mrs Kirkham looks forward to meeting as many of you as possible in the near future.

We have also had our new starter numbers for next year. We will be welcoming two EYFS classes and our new starter parents will hopefully be attending an induction evening on the 7th July. To teach and support our team next year we have also appointed two experienced class teachers and two experienced teaching assistants.

Our new teachers are Miss Peel who joins us from Glenmere primary school, one of our Trust schools and Miss Gallagher who joins us. We welcome both teachers to our team. Also joining us and supporting our children will be Miss Davies and Mr Hough as teaching assistants.

We have also appointed Miss Izirri to support Miss King during lunch time supervision. We welcome them all to our growing team.

We are currently looking at our arrangements for next year and you will be receiving your child's end of year report shortly. This will also inform you of your child's class teacher for next year.

Thank you to all of the children both in school and home schooling, you have been brilliant! Pupils in school have enjoyed their PE lessons and learning activities this week. It was great to see them all in their sports and PE kits today. We will also be offering the children hot meals at lunch time as much as possible. Thanks to our cooks in the kitchen who have been amazing. Hot meals will hopefully be on Monday, Wednesday and Friday. (Chip day!!!) On Tuesday and Thursday, we will be providing pack lunches. It is important that we support our kitchen staff as much as possible so the service can continue to operate as effectively as possible during this challenging time.

Thank you for all of your support. Stay Safe and Take Care.

COVID-19 DfE Guidance Update

We have received further guidance from the DfE about the coronavirus. We are monitoring this situation closely and are following the advice of our local Public Health Protection Team.

There are general principles anyone can follow to help prevent the spread of respiratory viruses, please see attached a link to our Trust website for further information.

<https://www.owlsacademytrust.co.uk/home/trust-news-updates>

We ask you to be vigilant, to keep up to date with the guidance provided by Public Health England and to take appropriate decisions in the best interests of children and families if you have travelled to any of the affected areas.

We understand that you will have concerns and ask for your support as we work together to ensure the good health of all of our stakeholders. Should you have any further concerns please do not hesitate to contact me.

Dates for Your Diary



June

Monday 29th School reports sent home

July

Tuesday 7th Induction evening for new starters 6.00pm

Thursday 9th School closes for summer today 3.15pm