



## A letter from Miss Holgate

Friday 18th June 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

It's been an eventful year this year and we have all been through an awful lot. This half term is jam packed with lots of exciting events and milestones in our children's lives. As a school we are going to try and keep the last half term as 'normal' as possible to allow our children to have the experiences that would normally be available at primary school. We will be doing this with our children's and community's safety at heart.

I have had lots of parents ask to volunteer this year and I'm afraid that we will be unable to have volunteers in school until September. I will gladly welcome you into school at this time and thank you for your understanding in the current climate.

As I mentioned in my last letter, this half term has a focus on behaviour within school. This has seen the introduction of toilet passes in each classroom, STAR! posters and a real focus on our behaviours for learning with children.

Your child may talk about the choices that they have made in school. 'Choices' are something that staff will be talking about with their classes and around the school. If children are struggling to make the right choices, staff will give them limited choices. For example, if a child was disrupting the class they may get a choice of 'Either you STAR! Sit and do your work here or you STAR! sit and do your work with a member of SLT' - This gives the child the opportunity to make the right choices.

### WOW moments - my three highlights of the week!

- Thank you to all of the Headteacher award 'wow-work' winners - they have worked incredibly hard to produce some fantastic work this week.
- My second wow moment is for the pupil leadership team - they stood up in front of their year groups and put themselves forward for this role. I can't wait to see what changes you make within the school.
- Well done to all of the children who have completed their assessments this week - you've worked really hard this week.

This week Mrs Stokes has held an assembly with every class to discuss our pupil leadership team. The new team have created videos and have shared them in assembly with their peers. Well done team! Our pupil leadership team will be looking into what it means to be a child at Harleston Primary Academy. They will be exploring what it looks like to 'Flourish and Grow with responsibility, respect and resilience.'

Due to ongoing work to upgrade toilets in the school which will continue over the Summer holidays there are currently temporary toilets situated on the playground outside Malala classroom.



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# Flourish and Grow

with

## Responsibility

I learn

I help others

I look after my environment

## Respect

I share my ideas

I listen to others

I am polite

## Resilience

I try my hardest

I learn from my mistakes

I never give up



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As mentioned in my letter before the half term, we are planning a sports week which coincides with next week's National sports week. Across next week there will be a whole host of exciting sporting events for our children to take part in.

**Please can all children come to school in their school P.E. kits each day next week and bring a water bottle.** PE kit is black/blue plain, unbranded shorts and a white/blue, unbranded, T-shirt. If it is cooler weather we would expect children to be in school in a plain, unbranded tracksuit of black/blue bottoms and their school jumper. Children may wear trainers during the week.

### National Sports Week at HPA!

**Monday: Teacher's choice!** We are starting off the week with the teacher's choice of sporting activity.

**Tuesday: Dance the day away!** A dance coach will be in school all day and she will work with all children to have fun learning a new dance routine.

**Wednesday: Tradition!** Traditional sports day events will be happening around the school. EYFS will be filming theirs and uploading to Tapestry. At lunchtime Mrs Beaumont will be running a hula hooping group - where children (and staff) can learn to hula hoop!

**Thursday: Alternative sports!** We will be having an outside provider in school to teach the children a range of alternative sports from frisbee to quidditch!

**Friday: Olympics!** Our outside providers will be back in school on Friday to run a mini HPA Olympics - Children (and staff) will get the opportunity to try some sports based on the Olympics. On Friday lunchtime - Mrs Beaumont will be getting the hula hoops out again to ensure that all children get the opportunity to hula hoop at lunchtime.

**Friday (again!): COLOUR RUN!** Friday 25th June it is a county wide Colour Run where all our children and adults can come to school dressed in the craziest, fun colourful clothing (which is suitable for sporting activities) and we will round off the week with a colour run around the school.

If the weather is inclement or too hot some of our sporting activities may be changed slightly but we are planning to continue with sports week.



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We would like to encourage our community to take their bikes, scooters or trikes next week or even walk, jog or dance into school to maximise opportunities for taking exercise and keeping fit and healthy.

### **Transition**

We are planning to have a transition week on 12th July. This will give your child a chance to meet their new teacher, setting them up for a successful start to next year. Some of our teachers are new to the school, so will not be available for the whole week, but every child will get a chance to meet their teacher and do some work with them. Current Year 6 children will be having a wide variety of activities during the Transition Week.

**Reception Teachers:** Mrs Beaumont and Miss Ingram

**Year 1 Teachers:** Mrs Clarke, Mr Anderson and Mrs Baker

**Year 2 Teachers:** Mrs Scofield, Miss Stead and Mrs Pritchard

**Year 3 Teachers:** Mrs Tooke, Mrs Moore and Miss Trotter

**Year 4 Teachers:** Mrs King and Mrs Hunter

**Year 5 Teachers:** Miss Quick and Miss Reynolds

**Year 6 Teachers:** Mrs Street, Mrs Ablett and Mrs Gateshill

**SENDCO:** Mrs Botwright

**Assistant Headteacher:** Mr Stagg

**Deputy Headteacher:** Mrs Price

**Headteacher:** Miss Holgate

Miss Moss will be leaving us in September, as she is relocating - good luck in your new adventures - you will be missed.



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As the lifting of restrictions has been pushed back and we are waiting to see the real impact of Covid-19 I wanted to highlight that all children have had an experience which we, as adults, cannot comprehend. There hasn't been a time like this, where children have been told that they cannot go outside and play with their friends, when hugging a relative has had to be so cautious. Across the country we are seeing new ways that the pandemic has affected our children. Some children have become more withdrawn, whilst others have displayed unusual behaviours. It's really important that we do not lose sight of the fact that every child in the world has been through something which we cannot fathom and we will be seeing the impact for many years to come. I have spoken to parents who are reporting that their children have recently become anxious and appear to be suffering from anxiety due to the restrictions and changes in the 'norm'. I have sent out a leaflet (alongside this letter) about anxiety and what we can do for children who are anxious at primary school age. I hope that this is helpful. If you have any questions about how we can work together to support your child with additional needs please do not hesitate to contact Mrs Botwright (our SENDco) and she will be happy to work with you.

Kindest Regards

Hannah Holgate