



Harleston CE Primary Academy

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Diocese of Norwich
St Benet's
Multi Academy Trust

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Dear families,

This is the last newsletter of the term from me and I would like to begin by thanking you all so much for your support this year. Before starting at the school in September I was told that the Harleston Federation was a special community and I have had the privilege of experiencing this every day. As staff in a school we understand the importance of what we do and the children have been a joy and an inspiration to us, in what continues to be very challenging times.

People make a school a special place and I would like to thank three in particular, all of whom will be saying goodbye to HPA at the end of the week. Mrs Stannard has worked in the school since 1995 as a teaching assistant and cover supervisor and she has supported the learning of literally thousands of children during that time. We are hugely grateful to her for her commitment to the Harleston community and her love for the school and we all wish her the very best for the future. We will also be saying a fond farewell to Miss Gardner and Miss Cuthill, as they both move on to exciting opportunities over the coming year. Thank you both for your passion and enthusiasm and for the energy you have given to the school. We all wish you well for the next chapter of your teaching career.

There will be some changes in January to our class structure. We are creating an additional year 6 class for the remainder of the academic year, which will be led by Mrs Tina Stagg. Mrs Stagg is an experienced key stage 2 teacher and brings a lot of expertise to the role. I am sure that she will be made to feel very welcome.

We will wait and see whether any additional guidelines will be issued either this week or over the holidays to schools with regards to protocols around COVID. Of course, any changes will be reflected in our risk assessments and will be shared with you. Certainly for now we will retain the measures that are in place, one of which is to ask that parents do not come into the school building other than the reception area by the office, unless you have a prior appointment. Face coverings are to be worn on the school site at all times and where possible, social distancing is to be followed.

On Wednesday of this week we will have our Christmas meal and Christmas jumper day. We would encourage all children to wear a Christmas jumper over the top of their school uniform, if they have one. There will be collection buckets at the entrance gates for any donations for Save the Children. A reminder also that Friday is a non-uniform day for the PTA and if you could donate £1.00 then that would be fantastic.

Finally, on behalf of all of the staff at Harleston Primary Academy I would like to wish you all a great last week of term and a wonderful, happy and safe Christmas and new year. We will look forward to welcoming our community back to school on Thursday 6th January.

Best wishes

Mark Carlyle, Head of School