



A member of the Harlington and Sundon Academy Trust

## LEARNING FOR LIFE

### SUMMER TERM 2020, NEWSLETTER

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

*Our July Value is Friendship*

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to thank you for your continued support over the last few months throughout what has been a challenging and emotional time for all in our school community. At the heart of everything we do is our 'Values' based education, which is embraced by the whole school community. These values are our guiding principles and we hope that you have continued to feel part of our wider Harlington and Academy Trust 'family' throughout this time. We have seen our values of kindness, courage, compassion and perseverance during this pandemic both nationally and in our community.

The whole staff team have worked tirelessly to continue to provide the best education they can for your child, under what have been very challenging circumstances. I think at times like this we appreciate what we have and it has been very apparent that our wonderful academy is far more than just our two school buildings.

As you are aware, as Head Teacher, I have a duty of care to all of our children, staff and families in our community; safeguarding and keeping everyone safe and well underpins our moral compass and duty. Our Board of Trustees and whole staffing team feel truly sorry and very sad that we have not been able to have all of the children in school to carry out the many annual activities including transition events, sports day and end of year parties and fun. However, in order to safeguard children, staff and members of our wider community, I have had to follow strict guidance from Government, Public Health England and the local Authority so that school remains open for children of and keyworkers as well as Reception, Year 1 and vulnerable children. I will remain firm in ensuring that all procedures and protective measures are in place for these last days of term.

This sadly means that our plans to have more year groups into school before the end of term cannot happen. We are two small schools and our teaching team are working at full capacity providing home learning to children working from home as well providing full time education for children in school. These groups, as I explained in my previous updates, have continued to increase as key workers have returned to work and teaching 'bubble' groups and staff must not be compromised by mixing with wider groups.

Our whole teaching team are extremely grateful to have had the opportunity to continue to feel connected with you and your child through the different avenues of communication such as telephone calls, emails, and zoom sessions. I am truly thankful to have such an exceptional staff team working with me at Harlington and Sundon teaching your children. We will shortly receive detailed information about returning to school in September and can look at the possibility for our current Year 4 children to have a 'leavers' reunion in the Autumn term.

I would like to say a personal thank you to every family in our community. Thank you for all you have done to support your child with their home learning, many of you whilst also juggling other family commitments and work. It has been wonderful to see the tremendous effort that has got into educating our children.

Mrs White, Head Teacher

### **Year 4 Transition Middle School Visit**

This week many Year 4 children had the opportunity to visit Parkfields Middle/ Arnold Middle. Feedback from children has been positive and I am sure they have found this experience valuable so that your child feels less anxious and excited to be moving onto their new school in Autumn. Mr Purdum and the Year 5 team commented how wonderful and well behaved the children were. Good questions were asked and the children were able to meet their new form teacher and get to see the school again.

### **Class Emails**

The class email account has been a fantastic way for parents, children and teachers to keep in touch during the time that school has been closed. We appreciate the weekly emails that have been sent so that we can monitor the progress of the work that the children have completed. The class email accounts will be closing on Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> July, please send all emails to the school office from Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> July at [sundonlower@sundon.cbeds.co.uk](mailto:sundonlower@sundon.cbeds.co.uk), Thank you

### **Zoom Meetings**

We have now finished our zoom meetings for the term. Thank you so much to all the children who have participated in our zoom meetings this half term. It has been lovely to see you all on camera and to be able to talk to you. We have found it a useful home-school link that has allowed us to stay in touch. We hope you have found it enjoyable too. Thank you to all the mums and dads that helped organise the zooms for their children.

Mrs Chandler

### **Summer Reading Challenge**

Please see the attached flyer for this year's 'Silly Squad' summer reading challenge for Central Bedfordshire. This year will be a little different from previous years. There are lots of online books and audiobooks that the children can access if they would like to join in. Whilst the children do deserve a break over the summer holidays, we strongly recommend that they still read regularly throughout this time. The summer reading challenge can be a good way to keep them motivated and engaged.

Mrs Chandler

### **School Meals**



From September the cost of lunches will be increasing to £2.18 per day for nursery, year 3 & 4. Universal Free School meals are still available for Reception, Year 1 & Year 2 children. Please pay dinner money in advance and make cheques payable to Caterlink Ltd. In September, Caterlink will notify parents/carers if children have credit on their account, Thank you

### **Autumn Term**

Daily	Weekly	Half Termly	Termly
£2.18	£10.90	£76.30	£150.42

**Attachments**

Trustee Report

Summer Reading Challenge

Chums