

Dear Families.

Welcome Back

Hello and welcome back to the Spring Term; it was wonderful to see so many smiling faces returning back to school with tales of fabulous Christmas breaks. I'd like to take this opportunity to thank you for your support and enthusiasm as I take on the new challenge of Acting Headteacher- so far I am finding it to be a rewarding and diverse experience: from boilers to books and everything in between.

As the term develops, we look forward to finding opportunities to welcome you back into the school. I know it has been such a long time and for some of you, you have not even entered the building. As the ever changing covid situation unfolds, we will do our absolute best to remedy that. Bear with us as we navigate this with the safety of our school community at the forefront of our decision making.

We so appreciate our fabulous school community, parents, grandparents, teachers, friends of the school and the children themselves and we thank you for your continued efforts and support. My hours are Monday- Thursday lunchtime, please do not hesitate to reach out if you need anything or there is anything we can do for you. In my absence, Ash Atherton will be supporting the school.

Thought for the week from Bill

It is a real pleasure to be joining the team at Forest of Galtres School. I am very excited to get going and am so grateful for the warm welcome I have already received. In addition to leading Collective Worship and helping at clubs, I am also here to be someone to talk to if the children, staff or parents would benefit from that. This term in Collective Worship we'll be looking at Love Languages, the ways we show and receive love, and this will hopefully provide lots of interesting material for conversations around the dinner table with families. I'm excited to get started and to meet you all in due course. Happy New Year!

Staffing Update

This week we welcomed Sara Oakley into our school. Sara hails from Ipswich and has a breadth and depth of experience, already having made a positive impact on our school. Miss



Oakley will be teaching in Oak and Acorns throughout the week and will be supporting me in this new endeavour.

We also welcomed Bill Topping as our new chaplain. Bill works for the Methodist circuit already and comes highly recommended for his sensitivity, openness and knowledge of theology. He is looking forward to supporting our school through worship, lunchtime clubs and mentoring our young people.

Parent Governor

We continue our search for a parent governor to join us on the governing body; it is a fantastic opportunity to represent your child, the parent community and support the school at a fundamental level. Appropriate training will be given to ensure you feel confident in the position with the commitment being six meetings a year- each meeting usually lasting around two hours and beginning at 18:00. If you are interested in having a chat about what it might involve, please reach out to myself or our chair of governors, Sue Van Hout (chair@fog.hslt.academy).

Exciting News

It is with great excitement that we announce the impending arrival of Baby Taylor-Heaton. Mrs Heaton and her husband Joe are expecting a baby in May and we couldn't be more thrilled for them. We wish her well with her pregnancy and will keep you updated regarding the provision we put in place for Elm class.

Additionally, I am delighted to inform you that I am expecting twins in June. I can't tell you how shocked I was to discover this- I have never seen my husband so still or so quiet- but we are adjusting to the idea and are now rather excited about tripling our children in one go.

I understand that this might evoke some anxiety for our school community, in terms of the unknowns going forward. However, I would like to reassure you of my dedication to this wonderful school that has been my home for five years now and to emphasise my commitment towards assisting in finding a fabulous and community-minded Headteacher to carry us forward into the future.



Application for Primary School Places

From the 12th October, primary applications for Reception places for September 2022 have opened. If you live in the City of York, please apply via: https://www.york.gov.uk/admissions If you like within the North Yorkshire City Council area, you can apply via: http://www.north-yorks.gov.uk/school-admissions

The closing date for applications is: 15th January 2022

Please bear in mind that even if your child attends the nursery setting here, you still need to make an application for a Reception school place.

School Menu

Miss Weller has attached school menu for this half term. The catering team are keeping the autumn menu running while they make new and upcoming changes. We will endeavour to get the new menu for the term up on the website and sent out to you all as soon as possible.

Super Stars this week

Congratulations to those children who received Gold, Silver and Bronze awards this week. We are really proud of your efforts and the example that you are to others. Well done and keep it up.

School Diary Dates

Bun Days

Oak: 14.01.22 Beech: 28.01.22 Elm: 11.02.22 Ash: 04.03.22 Acorns: 18.03.22

Yoyo Workshop in school: Monday 14th February

Term ends: Friday 28th February- 15:30

Next term: Beech class swimming on Thursdays



Club Forms

Please find attached the club booking form link at the end of this newsletter. Please ensure you complete this if you would like your child to attend any clubs.

Have a lovely and safe weekend,

Gemma Sutton headteacher@fog.hslt.academy