

28th January 2015

Dear parents/carers,

Continued Professional Development

Staff throughout the School have had further training in Read Write Inc. and Literacy and Language programmes to ensure they teach effective lessons in reading and writing. Some staff have participated in the Trust's leadership development programme, Mathematics Mastery training and a conference on improving attendance.

Fran and Sophie's placements

As part of their teacher training, Fran and Sophie will spend two weeks at the other Paradigm Academies from 9th March. They have already observed some teaching at Old Ford Primary Academy.

Governor visits and training

Our Governors visit the school regularly to observe what is happening in the classrooms, to attend meetings with people such as our Special Education Needs manager and the building contractors. They are attending induction and training on data analysis, finance and safeguarding pupils.

Grammar

Grammar lessons are being taught weekly alongside spelling and handwriting. These are essential skills that pupils need in order to master the English language.

Half term

Pupils throughout the School will be invited to attend additional learning sessions during the half-term break. These sessions are vital for pupils to catch up with learning that they have missed and for reintroducing particular skills and concepts that they are finding difficult.

ICT

The ICT suite is ready to use now and staff are having introductory sessions to enable them to teach with confidence. The pupils will be taught the Paradigm Trusts' e-safety curriculum to help them stay safe whilst using technology.

Physical Education – PE

Next term, the pupils in Years 1-3 will have half a term of gymnastics and then half a term of games. We are booking Sports Day and adventurous activity sessions for all pupils.

Playdeck

The playdeck has been successfully resurfaced and looks great! I should like to thank the Board of Directors, on behalf of everyone, as this solution was absolutely necessary as we had been left with a substandard finish.

Punctuality

This week is an attendance focus week. Attendance is much improved from last year, but punctuality is more of an issue. Please ensure your child/ren is ready to line up before 8.45am in the Park. People pulling up in cars at the entrance to the school are causing a hazard and the likelihood of an accident is increased significantly when two or three cars arrive together!

Reception

Parents/carers have been invited in to talk to pupils about their employment and jobs over the next two weeks.

September start date

The first day of the Autumn term, for pupils, will be Thursday 3rd September. The dates for the 2015-2016 academic year will be published as soon as possible.

Science

Two Science days, focused on Plants, have been planned for late this term for Years 1-3. There will be workshops, practical activities and much excitement no doubt!

Temple visit

The visit to the Radha Krishna Temple in Stratford was most successful for the pupils in Years 2 and 3. All pupils were able to see artefacts and learn about their importance to Hindus.

Topic

The next topic for Years 1-3 is the History unit of work- Stone, Bronze and Iron Ages up to the Romans. The core knowledge document will come out in advance. We are trying to book educational visits, but the Museum of London is fully booked. This would be a great family day out during half-term and would give your child/ren a good start in their learning of this topic.

Year 1

Louise, the teacher in 1Blue, has decided to return home to the Lake District. Tahreena Ward will be the class teacher for the rest of the academic year.

Yours faithfully,



Amanda Phillips

Executive Principal

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