



Wednesday 21st October 2020

Dear Families,

Welcome to our new leadership team

This half-term has brought a revised way of nominating our Head Boy/Girl team for this academic year. Our traditional approach of having the children prepare presentations to be shared with the children was simply not possible with the current restrictions in place. This year, all of our Year 6 children had to design and make a leaflet that would outline each of their special attributes, qualities and skills linked to the Head Boy/Girl job description. This leaflet had to advertise themselves as a true ambassador of the school. From all of the leaflets designed, each Head of School across the Federation chose a selected few to be interviewed by our Chair of Governors, Mrs Christopherson and myself.

This was great fun as we took the time to ask the children about leadership and more specifically leadership during a pandemic. They were truly impressive, as they spoke about 'virtual' ways of communicating to all of the children and providing experiences in school that would mean that being at school was still fun and exciting, even if it meant that we were all slightly more distanced.

I am proud to be able to confirm that our leadership team are:

Head Girl: **Eleanor** (Westminster Class)
Head Boy: **Jay** (Colliers Wood Class)
Deputy Head Girl: **Matilda** (Westminster Class)
Deputy Head Boy: **Rayaan** (Westminster Class)



Well done to these children and a big **thank you** to all of Year 6, as it was such difficult decision to make.





Congratulations to our newly appointed Junior Travel Ambassadors

Our Year 5 children also had to work hard to complete their Junior Travel Ambassador application forms, knowing the responsibility they would have in ensuring safer and active travel. Our Junior Travel Ambassadors from last year chose our winning Junior Travel Ambassadors for this academic year. We wanted to involve these children in the selection process, as we felt that they had missed so much from last year, due to the closure of the school. Our Junior Travel Ambassadors are:

Zahil and Senuli (Edgware Class)

Zara and Jacob (Barbican Class)

Aziz and Natasha (Temple Class)

We are very much looking forward to our Walk to School Week when we come back after half-term. Thank you team JTA.

Our Pupil Achievement Review Day

Our Pupil Achievement Review Day will be different within the Federation this year, as we carefully consider the Government guidance for the Full Opening of Schools, the newly revised local COVID tier 2 guidance, alongside the need to ensure that you feel informed as to how your child has settled back to school and the newer routines. Our PAR Day plans have ensured the reduction in the number of families on site at any one time and the use of the available space for this to happen safely.

Our Early Years and Key Stage 1 families will be invited into school for their appointments. Early Years families will be welcomed into the Foundation Stage for a 15-minute consultation with the classteacher. As with our open mornings/afternoons, only **one** parent will be permitted to attend and all children **must** remain at home. Classrooms will be set up with socially distanced seating arrangements and with a sufficient period of time between each appointment to allow for any periodic cleaning required. You will be asked to sanitise your hands upon arrival and you **must** wear a mask, unless you are exempt.

We will create a one-way system so that you enter the building via the back door to the classroom and you will be accompanied to the main entrance by a member of the support staff team.

Our Year One and Two families will also be invited into school for their appointments. Only **one** parent will be invited into school to attend a meeting with their classteacher. Our Hyde Park Corner hall will be arranged with tables set up so that you have the time to talk with the classteacher and look through your child's learning so far. Please arrive a few minutes before your appointment time and wait outside the main entrance. There will be members of support staff at the doors of the hall ready to escort you to your appointment. There will be a one-way system created for entrance and exit from the hall. You will also be asked to sanitise your hands





upon arrival and you **must** wear a mask, unless exempt.

Our Key Stage 2 families will expect a telephone appointment with their classteacher and a sample of writing and Mathematics will be sent to you via the Google Classroom in advance of the meeting. Please expect these two samples of work to be in the Google Classroom for you by **Wednesday 4th November**.

Please do note the fact that our Key Stage 2 families will have a face to face appointment in February 2021, when we next have our PAR Day and our Key Stage 1 families will have a telephone appointment. Our Early Years families will continue to be invited into the Early Years setting again next term.

Your appointment times will be detailed in a parentmail sent this evening at **5.00 pm**. We have ensured that if you have more than one child in a different Key Stage that you have enough time to move from the school building to receive your phone call at home.

Discussions with the classteacher will focus on the emotional health and well-being of your child and how well they have settled back into the everyday routines and expectations of school life. You will also have the opportunity to hear about the relationships that they have they formed with others and if there are any concerns.

Each classteacher will give you some indication as to where your child is working within in terms of the curriculum year group expectations at this point in the year and the plan for Rapid Recovery, if this does involve your child. We will also make sure that you have a good understanding of the expectations of blended learning and the use of the Google Classroom. So much has changed for both you and us that we feel that this opportunity will help support some of the questions that you may have, alongside our expectations of you as a parent supporting us.

Our School Key Priorities

To continue to develop aspirational leadership and Governance across the Federation in support of improved standards of learning and teaching.
To continue to champion our community's social, emotional, mental health and well-being to ensure that all children and staff are carefully supported in their return to school.
To influence the food choices that we make by providing a healthier school living environment.
To monitor, evaluate and review our BeDifferent curriculum in the context of how we explore how beliefs, values and attitudes drive behaviours and develop an awareness of our own, and others', cultural heritage. To understand that Strength lies in Differences.
To ensure that our reviewed BeDifferent Curriculum includes key questions/knowledge expectations that support progressively what the children need and must know.
To review and develop our 'virtual' learning experiences in support of improved communication and partnership working.





To assess, review and close the attainment gap of targeted children in making at least 4 steps of progress across the year in reading to ensure a greater percentage achieve the age-related expectations.
To assess, review and close the attainment gap of targeted Key Stage 1 children in making at least 4 steps of progress across the year in writing to ensure a greater percentage achieve the age-related expectations.
To assess, review and close the attainment gap of targeted Key Stage 1 and 2 children in making at least 4 steps of progress across the year in Mathematics to ensure a greater percentage achieve the age-related expectations.
To continue to develop and improve our inclusive practices in support of accelerated progress for our underperforming children.
To monitor and evaluate the scientific lines of enquiry that support the children's interest in the world around them.
To continue to embed the expectations of the Learning Consultation Policy to ensure that feedback informs the learner of what they have achieved and what more they need to achieve.
To sustain the percentage of children meeting the expected standard in phonics to at least 91%.
To implement the changes identified in the revised Foundation Stage Curriculum in support of improved indoor and outdoor learning experiences.
To improve the opportunities for developing a wider vocabulary in order to support the children's reading and writing skills in the Foundation Stage in order to increase the percentage from 83% of children achieving the Good Level of Development.

Wellbeing Award

I am thrilled to be able to announce our successful accreditation of the Wellbeing Award. The award recognises how schools have changed their long-term culture in promoting and supporting children, families and staff with their emotional wellbeing and mental health. Much of what we have been commended for is centred around the support that we have provided for children, staff and families during this pandemic. The accreditation of this award looks at how we as a school we have focused on:

- The wellbeing of our staff, children and families
- Developing a culture where supporting positive mental health and wellbeing is the responsibility of all
- Offering high quality training for staff so that they feel confident in meeting the needs of all children
- Promoting and encouraging participation from the wider community
- The implementation of a clear vision that protects and promotes positive emotional wellbeing and mental health
- Ensuring systems and partnerships are robust and support our ongoing vision for mental fitness

I would like to personally thank Mrs Bhogal, my team of staff who work so hard to prioritise all children's emotional development and you as families who responded so overwhelmingly positively





about the work of our special school.

Our mental fitness priority doesn't stop now so please be aware that we will be providing you and the children with many more supportive materials to help you remain 'connected and supported'.
THANK YOU.

Attendance update

We are very pleased to be able to report that our attendance percentage for last week was **96.3%**, a fabulous improvement on last week's attendance at 96.1%.

Being safety aware

I would like to thank the Singlegate community for your support and understanding when you were informed of the Year 1 closure. We have had a thorough deep clean in all of the Year 1 classrooms and staff have been reminded of the importance of our continued hygiene and distancing expectations. I would like to remind families of my expectation of you too and to be mindful of your distancing outside of our school gates and if this is sometimes difficult, then a face mask is highly recommended.

I know that I have provided you with a lot of new information this week but as I am sure that you are aware, this is a continuous period of 'change' and I am keen to keep you very well informed.

Have a lovely rest of the week and a safe half-term,
Mrs N Bull
Chief Executive Headteacher

