

22nd October 2021

Dear Families,

As we approach the October half term break, I wanted to say a massive 'Thank you' to all our pupils, parents and carers for the huge commitment you have shown throughout the last 20 months, to support your children's learning. It has been an extraordinary time for the whole nation, but especially challenging for families.

We all know the last 20 months has taken a herculean effort but it was so good to welcome all children back to school in September. It is a huge testimony to everyone's hard work that so many have managed so well, continuing to make progress in their learning, despite the challenges they faced.

We are delighted to tell you that, since returning to school, the children have shown huge enthusiasm for learning, and thanks to the hard work of staff and a well-designed curriculum, our children are making fantastic progress. Because of this, we anticipate that our pupils, with your support and the staffs' amazing commitment, will continue to make tremendous progress over the course of this academic year. We are looking forward to holding our first Parent Consultation event at the end of November and sharing with you what the children have been learning and how they are performing.

This week our Role Model day has been an absolute highlight of this first half term. Our school vision of Dream, Believe and Achieve was fully on display. Seeing the children share their dreams and their role models, gave the staff some amazing moments that we will not forget. Our amazing community also came together to share the world of 'Work' with the children and some of the opportunities for jobs that are out there. The children were fascinated by these and who their role models were. They heard about working for ITV, Weetabix, starting your own company, being an artist, footballer, cricketer, recruitment consultant, recording artist, working with adults with autism and the list goes on. These incredible people gave up their own time to make these videos and we are eternally grateful. Our mission is to ensure our children do 'Dream' of a bright future, 'Believe' they can and they will 'Achieve' and hearing from these individuals made them realise they can.

During the first week back, we will be taking part in UK Parliament week which is a celebration of people power. We are looking forward to exploring the roles within parliament, people's rights and democracy. We will also be hosting our own elections.

Finally, I wanted to finish my letter with a couple of good news stories.

I want to start with a massive congratulation to Miss Harris and her partner, who will be getting married next weekend. I am sure you will join me in wishing them an amazing day and a fabulous future. I know all of the staff cannot wait to see the photos now it is finally happening. Cherish every moment.

The second piece of exciting news, which I am sure some of your children may have already shared with you, is that Miss Miller is expecting a baby early next year. We wanted to take this opportunity to congratulate her and her family.

After discussions with Miss Miller, a decision was made that Miss Berry will take on the lead teacher role in Elm Class to ensure consistency for the children across the academic year. Miss Berry worked at Newton Road prior to the summer and is an absolute asset to our team. The children are in safe hands. Miss Miller will now have a varied timetable and will be teaching all classes across the school and carrying out tuition for some of our pupils.

I wish you all a safe, happy and relaxing half term. Enjoy spending time with your lovely children and we look forward to seeing you back in school on **Tuesday 2nd November**. Remember gates open at 8:35am and registration is at 8:50am.

Take care and stay safe

Miss Mills

Diary Dates for Next Term

Monday 1st November	SCHOOL CLOSED – Training Day
Tuesday 2nd November	SCHOOL OPENS TO PUPILS
Tuesday 2nd November – Friday 5th November	UK Parliament Week – including School Elections
Friday 5th November	Y5/6 to watch a performance of "The Snow Goose" which is a story linked to remembrance.
Thursday 11th November - am	KS2 Cross Country Event
Thursday 11th November	Remembrance Day
Friday 12th November	Children in Need Visit by our local MP
Monday 15th November	Odd Socks Day – voluntary donation for the Anti-Bullying Alliance
Monday 15th - Friday 19th November	Anti-Bullying Week/ Inter-Faith Week: One Kind Word
Monday 29th November – Friday 3rd December	Proposed Week for Parent Consultation Meetings
Friday 10th December	Christmas Jumper Day
WB Monday 13th December – exact dates TBC	Christmas Parties Y2 Recorded Nativity EYFS and Y1 Recorded Christmas Sing a Long
Friday 17th December	LAST DAY OF TERM