

Market Field School Learning for Life

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Head of School: Ruth Whitehead

RW/tb

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Dear Parents/Carers

Spring Term 2023 Newsletter 2

The Easter holidays are upon us, the Disco is in full flow as we speak and there have been several Easter egg hunts in the building today. We have had such a brilliant term, with the business of learning in full flow, the children never fail to amaze me with their ability and their resilience.

A few updates to share with you all.

Goodbyes

Today, we say goodbye to Mrs Hawken and Mrs Buxton, the teachers from Pine class. Both have been at Market Field School for a long time and will be greatly missed. We wish both of them the very best and hope that they come back to see us in the not too distant future.

We also say goodbye to Leon in year 7 today. Leon never fails to bring a smile to the faces of all staff and students. He is an absolutely delightful young man and we are really going to miss him. We wish him well at his new school.

Assistant Heads and changes to the Leadership Structure

I was pleased to appoint Kim Bere and Stacey Saxby to the school leadership team as Assistant Headteachers. They will be joining Rebecca Norfolk and Sarah Gallaher in role.

Kim will be leading on Quality of Education, Stacey on Behaviour and Attitudes, Sarah on Personal Development and Rebeca will be Assistant Head in charge of Autism bases. These additional appointments add additional capacity and strength to the Leadership team, enabling Peter and myself to broaden our stretch. I will be spending half a day a week on college campus after the holiday to ensure a joined-up approach across both sites.















Autism base audit

We are having an audit of our Autism base provision on 25^{th} April. Adam Dean, Head of Chatten Free School will be joining to carry out this audit. As part of this we will be considering parent voice from within the bases. A survey will be put out to parents in the Autism bases week commencing 17^{th} April and we would encourage as many of you as possible to have a say .

Residentials

We will be consulting in the Summer term on the future of school residentials. I have had some feedback from a few groups of parents that a yearly residential is not sustainable and that a residential at a point in each Key Stage may be a more viable route forward. We will put this consultation out in May and will share the findings with you before the end of the academic year.

Non-Pupil Day

A reminder that Friday 21st April will be our final non-pupil day for the academic year. Our teachers will be attending training on Vocational Profiling, which I think is around tailoring the curriculum to meet the child's aspirations for career (I'll let you know after the training!) and our Support staff are attending the second part of their Scaffolding training.

School Uniform

A polite reminder that school uniform should be worn at all times. Where children are wearing tracksuit bottoms, these need to be plain in colour and not patterned, camouflaged or combat. They need to be plain black or grey. As part of her new role, Mrs Saxby will be focussing on school uniform in the Summer term. If anyone requires any second hand uniform, please notify the office and they will be more than happy to distribute some. Please don't send in any spares for the time being, we have nowhere to keep it and are looking to dispose of it, if it is not required.

Playground rules

We will be reinforcing with the children in April but we would be grateful if you could enforce our playground expectations around violence. There should be no gun fighting - either with finger guns or any form of Neft/Pistol and no sword fighting. Cops and robber chase games are fine but when the line is crossed to physical violence/imitation weapons, the game has gone too far.

Special Shout Outs

This half term my special shout outs are for the following students:

Alex W in 7G who has absolutely smashed her first term in her new school. It feels like she has been here forever and she adheres to the Market Field School values every day.

All of year 11 for working so hard towards exams, keep going guys, that finish line is in sight. I know how hard each of you has worked.

Vinnie in Chestnut for fantastic model making.

Reuben in Holly for coping so well with a move to his new class.

Sammy in E for coping so well with a move to his new class.

We are proud of all of you!

Reminders

We are a cashless school. If you are unable to pay via Pay360, please request the barcode from the school office. You will then be able to pay cash at a local pay point ie. Post Office or corner shop.

Medical Reminder

We are a nut free school! A number of our students have severe nut allergies, hence we ask that everyone respects this decision. This also includes some chocolate spreads in sandwiches and cereal bars. Anything that is nut related is a no go please.

If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea, please adhere to the 48 hour policy. With so many vulnerable students in school it is even more important to be considerate of others.

Please ensure that you keep your pupil data emergency contact details up to date. Ensuring you have a contact who can collect your child when unwell, should the need arise.

We would also like to welcome two new Teachers to our team. Mr Cornell will be taking over Pine class and Mrs Cook will be working alongside Mrs Gallaher in Poplar class. Both are already familiar to the students, having spent time in these classes respectively.

I wish you all a safe and enjoyable Easter holiday. See you on 17th April.

With warmest regards

Ruth Whitehead

Head of School