



## Head of School's letter

January 2017



Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year and welcome back to the Spring Term! It was lovely to welcome the pupils back into school last week. The pupils have settled quickly and hard work has begun. As always we are exceptionally proud of our pupils and the way they have returned to school and settled straight into the working routine is admirable.

### **Half Term Homework**

A huge thank you and well done to everyone who took part in the homework competition over the Christmas break. We are overwhelmed with the inventiveness and talent shown by the entrants! We have lots of exciting dioramas, pictures and models appearing around the school. I am looking forward to viewing them properly over the next couple of weeks.

### **Uniform**

A huge thank you to all parents and carers for ensuring that the children look as smart as always. I would remind parents that boots and trainers are not part of the school uniform. They may be worn to and from school but children should change into black school shoes upon arrival into the building. On a similar note, we do not allow sandals in the Summer Term for safety reasons, so please remember this when buying shoes for your child later in the year. Girls wearing headscarves should not use a sharp pin to keep them closed, but instead use the safety pin style pins.

PE kit must be in school every day. Children still do PE outside in the Spring Term so please send a plain, dark tracksuit into school. Trainers or pumps must also form part of the PE kit. For PE, headscarves should either be removed, or girls should wear a sports headscarf like the one pictured below.



### **Events**

As always we have a lot to look forward to this term. Class assemblies will continue on Thursday afternoons and ASPIRE assemblies will be on Friday mornings.

We have an Open Afternoon for parents who have children that will be starting in Reception in September. If you have a child starting Reception in September, or know someone who does, please join us at 2pm on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> January.

Mrs Mockbil hosts a weekly Coffee Morning on a Tuesday for parents so please come along and get involved; there are also a range of parent courses – please speak to Mrs Mockbil for details.

Later in the half term we will be holding parent drop in evenings where you can come into school with your child to look through their books and speak to their teacher. We look forward to seeing you then.

## **Attendance**

Our attendance as a whole school was 97.05% for the Autumn term. This is the highest we have ever achieved and is higher than other schools in the local community. Thank you for joining us in recognising the importance of your child being in school every day; it is wonderful to feel so much support in this crucial area. As a reminder, to achieve this figure we have asked parents to organise dental and doctor appointments outside of school hours. The majority of parents have willingly done this and we will continue to refuse to authorise non-urgent appointments to ensure the children receive the best possible education. No holidays in term-time will be authorised.

Finally if you have any queries please speak to a member of the team. I look forward to another happy and successful term.

With best wishes,

Mrs R Eaton