Towers Times

Newsletter edition: 2

10th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

A busy but brilliant week here across the Federation. Children have continued to be simply amazing as they return to school life. Getting to know their new classrooms and systems whilst enjoying finding out about each other and re-connecting with staff.

We also send a very warm welcome to our new reception children who have started school over this week - they have already shown excellent listening skills, with their warm smiles and enthusiasm to learning and exploring they are a credit to their families and will be an asset to our school family. We know they will certainly sleep well over the coming weekend. We would also like to extend a warm welcome to those new to our school in other year groups. We hope all those families are getting used to our Towers way and hope you enjoy the time your child is here with us.

Over the week we have been busy going into classes witnessing some excellent discussions and learning taking place. As the children rise to the challenges ahead of them staff are working hard to establish systems and routines with the high standards we have come to expect for all.

Mrs Berry, our Deputy Head Teacher and SENDCo, has also been very busy with getting to know and work with children and staff across the schools and hopes to reach out to as many of you as possible over the coming weeks. She plans to put together a newsletter with key information including drop ins with a range of professionals for you to use - watch this space!

This week we welcomed our schools Health and Safety advisor from Havering. The purpose of the visit was to support us with assessing the risks associated with the ventilation of every room, large or small in readiness for the CO2 monitors being delivered to schools over the coming month. All schools across the authority have been tasked to complete this as an extra layer of protection for us all. With this ventilation review we have been able to add further specific control measures for the safety of staff and children which is in addition to our schools risk assessment.

As we have said from the beginning we will continue to keep you up to date with any changes we may need to put in place as soon as possible and whilst the government have made clear that in our personal lives we have to assess the risks ourselves, in schools there is guidance provided by Health and Safety Executive along with the DFE that schools must follow. We have spent many hours trying to ensure that on the road map back to another new normal our children are getting a creative and engaging learning experience and thank you for your ongoing support and cooperation.

With 'experiences' in mind - we hope you will have seen the letter sent this morning regarding sport clubs taking place from next week led by Mr Clancy and Mrs Patterson. We really do hope to continue to extend club opportunities and will look to build on this offer over the coming months, please bear with us as we have great plans ahead.

Accompanying this letter you will find our annual home school agreement that we kindly ask you confirm has been read and understood. We appreciate that as the school year begins not to overload our families with information and our reopening to schools letter we hope provided you with all the information you required for your child to be able to return, reintegrate and resume.

On Monday we plan to issue our updated curriculum maps outlining the skills being delivered by staff over the coming half term, in addition we will also be sending home the annual school calendar with key events listed alongside school training days, where the school is closed to pupils. Some events we have previously known may not be listed and this will be due to our Covid risk assessment.
In Years 1 – 6, the children will be coming home with reading books today, unfortunately the personalised planners have not yet arrived. We hope they will be with us next week.

Can we ask that now we have verified the collection records for your children, you ensure that your child is collection by someone you have identified on our records. If you need to make one off changes to collection arrangements such as a grandparent or friend collecting who is not on your list, please can we ask that you email the relevant school office before midday so that we can inform the class teacher. In the event of an unplanned emergency please continue to ring the school office. Please do not email the year group in box as Teachers may miss these messages due to their teaching commitment. We want to avoid any unnecessary delays for you and the children at the end of the school day whilst we check arrangements.

Should you need to contact the school office or have any questions the quickest method of contact in the first instance will be to email the relevant school office (Infants via office@towersinfant.co.uk or Juniors via office@towersjs.havering.sch.uk) You can also call the infant office on 01708 447407 or junior office 01708 449872. If you need to contact your child's teacher you can continue to use the year group email regarding any curriculum issues.

Finally - thank you sincerely for the donations of books we have received so far, please do pop into the boxes distributed across the site with any books you may have as you know so that we continue to broaden skills and reading opportunities

We hope that the warm weather returns this weekend and whatever you are doing, you are safe and continue to make wonderful memories together

Ms L J Blurton and Mrs C D Hurley
Head Teachers – Towers Infant and Towers Junior schools