Towers Times

Newsletter edition: 5

13th October 2022

Dear Families,

May we begin by expressing our sincere thanks to all those families who supported us with ensuring your child ordered a school meal at the end of last week, our favourtites themed special school dinner. On this day, the number of school meals taken at both schools are counted and reported, and this then contributes to our funding allocation. We had over 450 children having school dinner - thank you so much - this makes a big difference to our budget.

It has been wonderful to see many of our parents and carers either face to face or on zoom for this terms Parents Evenings over the past two weeks. If for any reason, you didn't make an appointment, or you missed it, please call or email the school offices and we will do our best to accommodate appointments to see your child's teacher - it is so important that you take the time to meet your child's teacher and find out how your child is doing at school.

We have had another incredible week here across the Federation, both Towers Infant and Towers Junior schools have had a week of wonderful events and engaging excting opportunities for our children taking center stage. Hightlights of the week includes;

- ✓ Some of our Year 1 and 2 children took part in a football festival at Noak Hill sports center on Wednesday – where our Year 1 children were awarded overall winners against 5 other schools.
- ✓ Some of our Year 5 and 6 children took part in the local authority cross country competition at Stubbers.
- ✓ All children have been able to take part in a borough cross country which they have run during PE sessions.
- ✓ Our Year 5 children had a wonderfully immersive Anglo-Saxon workshop giving the children the opportunity to explore their topic with a range of artefacts and workshops.
- ✓ And on Wednesday we had our first house day! Osborne Day was a wonderful opportunity for our children across the Federation to come together for partner reading. That's without all the wonderful learning opportunities in our classrooms as our teachers and staff deliver our carefully planned exciting curriculum.

Our children never cease to amaze us with their positive attitudes and determination in all that they do! Thank you for supporting us as schools – we only ever want the very best and we can assure you our staff community will always champion every child! Your children are fabulous! Deserving only the best!

Our thanks must go to the staff who have planned, prepared and attended the differing events above, special thanks go to Mr O'Meara and Mrs Edwards, Mrs Hampton and Miss Gad.

As you will know, last week we shared that we would be meeting with the local authority officers and local councillor regarding parking around our school site. This meeting took place on Tuesday and a plan has been put together in order to support you as parents/carers and our residents. Imran Kazalbash, Assistant Director Public Realm and Cllr Christine Smith spent an hour in school listening to our concerns, sharing the contents of emails we have received from parents/carers and residents and they have shared that our issues will be discussed further at the Town Hall, but in the interim increased parking enforcement officers will be once again redeployed and the streets scheme will be revisited. We shall also be welcoming officers into school in due course to lead on assemblies and work alongside our Junior Travel Ambassadors in raising on-going local awareness. Cllr Smith shared the Drop Kerb rules booklet for us to distribute so please do take time to read the attached leaflet in order to keep peace and calm across our community.

We are excited to also be able to share with you all that we have begun a partnership with the Queens Theatre as one of the key stakeholders in the Local Cultural Education Partnership. This in turn will provide our children the opportunity to work with an artist in residence, as well as further deepening our wider opportunities and personal development offer, alongside many other exciting opportunities! As part of this work we are asking our community to answer a few questions in order to gauge engagement of the Queens Theatre and to seek which cultural opportunites you would love to see in our local area. Please see google link below to complete, it should only take 5 minutes maximum!

https://forms.gle/GW1GRSdDCbWhoG9x7

Next Friday is Harvest Festival and we are collecting tinned and dried foods such as cereal, pasta, soup, rice, tea, coffee, sugar, tinned desserts and biscuits for Rainham Foodbank. Please send your donations in to class with your child. Thank you so much for your generosity.

On behalf of the staff community we hope you have a lovely weekend,

Mr M J Dineen

Executive Head Teacher – The Federation of Towers schools

Cost of Living support

Havering council have created a one-stop-shop that may support, you, us our community this winter.

https://www.havering.gov.uk/financialadvice

The Website includes the following information:

Havering Helps assistance scheme, council tax support, debt management services, energy grants, food banks and community hubs, as well as online benefits calculators

Attendance Chart

Class	Attendance
Owl	97%
Puffin	98%
Robin	97%
Flamingo	97%
Starling	98%
Wagtail	98%
Goldfinch	94%
Kingfisher	99.7%
Toucan	95%
3D	96%
3P	92%
3H	99%
4P	98%
4T	95%
4C	97%
5M	96%
5C	98%
5RB	94%
6L	94%
6G	96%
6D	96%

Green 95% and above – government expected 90 – 94 %, amber and red 89% and below are below school standards set by DFE

Trips

Apologies must be expressed for the difficulties we are facing with parentpay – electronic systems are fantastic when they work. This should now be up and running for parents to pay for the enrichment opportunities for this academic year.