

Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

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'For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope.'

Jeremiah 29:11

July 2019

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Term 6

As my second year as Acting Head Teacher comes to an end, I have had the opportunity to reflect on the year gone by and all this has entailed. It has, once again, been a very busy year. It is also fair to say that there have been a number of ups and downs over the course of the year, it has been a year of challenges and successes. I will share more about our successes later in this newsletter, however I have to say how proud I am to be a part of the Spalding Parish family and how proud I also am of every single member for how they approach their own challenges and successes day to day.

I would also like to take the opportunity to say a couple of thank yous. Firstly I'd like to say a huge thank you to the children who have made this academic year so rewarding and really worthwhile. Each and every one of them is absolutely amazing and I burst with pride to see all that they have achieved over the course of this year. I wish them all continued success in their learning journeys as they move on to their new classes, year groups and, in some instances, schools. Secondly, I'd also like to say thank you to you all, the parents and carers, for your continued support during the year. In what has been a very challenging year, your support for the pupils, staff and myself has been greatly appreciated. I know we are united in our drive to ensure our pupils, your children, achieve their potential and only by working together can this be wholly achieved. I hope we can rely on your continued support into the year ahead. My final thanks must be extended to the Governors and staff team for their continued drive, support and commitment to the children and families of SPCEDS and to the Spalding Parish family as a whole.

The Senior Leadership Team and I look forward to working with you all during the year ahead. Please remember that if you do have any worries or concerns with regards to your child or something else school related, a member of the SLT or myself makes themselves available every single day to speak to parents/carers. I also try to make myself available if parents pop in at the beginning and end of the day, where possible. I hope those of you who have utilised this during the year have found this useful. I am aware that at times there are grumbles, be it on the playground, on social media or elsewhere, and would urge you to come in and have a chat with one of us. Only if we know about it can things be responded to. We also try to make ourselves available on the playground at the beginning and the end of the day and are happy to speak to parents/carers then.

Acting Head Teacher Terms 1 & 2

As you will no doubt be aware, the LAAT, as the academy sponsor for Spalding Parish, are in the process of appointing a substantive Head Teacher. As such, the LAAT hope to have made an appointment in readiness for the start of Term 3, for January 2020. I have been asked to continue as Acting Head Teacher for Terms 1 and 2 until an appointment is made. I will be very ably supported by Rachael Skidmore and Kim Bird, our Assistant Head Teachers.

Good bye and Good luck

We have said a number of goodbyes at the end of this year to a number of members of staff – Lucy O'Hagan, Anna Goulding, Katie Cash, Karen Sapsford and Yasmin McDonald, Jo Evans, Fran Taylor, Alex Griffin and Dan Clifton. Lucy and Katie have both decided to take a break from teaching to spend time with their own families, whilst Karen is hoping to relocate to a different part of the country. Anna has secured a teaching post in a smaller school, to develop her experience whilst still in the early years of her career, and Yasmin is also looking to take on a new challenge in another school. Alex is relocating overseas with his partner taking on a similar role there, whilst Jo is moving to another local school for a new challenge. Fran is also taking some time out, however we do hope to be able to welcome her back into school, perhaps in a voluntary capacity, in the near future. Dan is leaving us, after nine years as Site Manager, to take on a different role servicing machinery in the private sector. Please join with us in wishing them all well in their future endeavours. Remember to keep in touch, you will always be welcome here at Spalding Parish.

Year 6

We have said our final farewell to our Year 6 children who have been amazing. We wish them well for their futures and look forward to hearing of their many achievements, you will always be part of the Spalding Parish family. The celebrations have been enjoyed by all and it is fair to say that many tears have been shed. Good Bye Year 6, Good Luck, God Bless!

Sports Days and Community Sports

Our recent Sports Days and celebration of National Sports Week were a huge success! The children participated very well and the weather was kind to us, although it did take two attempts for our Key Stage 1 and Foundation Stage pupils and families. Thank you so much for working with us, despite last minute changes to ensure the pupils had a fantastic day. Over the course of the week, all pupils in school had the opportunity to take part in sports activities with local community clubs, including tennis, cricket, hockey and rugby, and we hope this will encourage participation in the future in a range of sporting activities. Elite Sports and Tracey Vowels also offered fantastic fitness sessions. We also welcomed Eden Francis, on Wednesday 26th June, who led activities with all the pupils over the course of the day. Eden is a discus and shot putter, who is hoping to qualify for the 2020 Olympic Games.

Choir

THANK YOU to the Choir for all their wonderful performances and the sharing of their talents during the year including at the recent Choir festival and during the recent Church services and our recent SIAMS inspection; you always sound beautiful. I look forward to

hearing all about your future ventures in the coming year. Thank you to all the adults who have supported the children to make it all possible.

Curriculum Enhancement

Again, thank you for your support with the numerous trips/activities both in and out of school to engage your child in learning. Without your support these would not happen and learning would not be as much fun. The common experience this offers to draw upon is invaluable. Over the year ahead, we hope to continue to offer pupils more exciting and engaging opportunities to ensure they receive an enriching curriculum and learning experience. Your continued support with such events is invaluable.

SIAMS Inspection

On Wednesday 26th June, we had our SIAMS (Statutory Inspection of Anglican and Methodist Schools) Inspection. This takes place every five years and focuses on a school's religious character. As a Voluntary Aided school, the teaching of RE is also inspected. Despite the fact our recent Ofsted Inspection limits our SIAMS grade to 'Requires Improvement', we are pleased with the report and all the positives noted about school, including recent improvements across school particularly in relation to progress and outcomes of pupils.

Pupil Outcomes

As you will know from receiving your child's report last week, we have reached the time in the school year where pupil outcomes from statutory assessments are shared with schools. Last year's outcomes (for the 2017-18 academic year) evidenced a small improvement on the year before, and whilst this was acknowledged in part by the Ofsted team, there was still a gap when compared to National standards and this has been a priority for improvement for both 2017/18 and 2018/19. I am now very pleased to be able to share our Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 outcomes for the current academic year, which we are, as a school, very proud of. They evidence just how far we have come on our journey of improvement over the last two years and particularly since our Ofsted inspection in November 2018.

Key Stage 2	School 2017	School 2018	School 2019	National 2019
Reading	53%	60%	70%	73%
Writing (TA)	68%	73%	80%	78%
GPS	54%	60%	77%	78%
Maths	54%	54%	83%	79%
Combined	40%	48%	63%	65%

Key Stage 1	School 2017	School 2018	School 2019	National 2018
Reading (TA)	71%	69%	74%	75%
Writing (TA)	62%	62%	62%	70%
Maths (TA)	75%	78%	78%	76%

EYFS	School 2017	School 2018	School 2019	National 2018
Good Level of Development	73%	74%	74%	72%

I would like to say a huge thank you to the pupils, the staff, the Governors and yourselves, as our parent body, for your continued support in ensuring we remain true to our vision,

enabling all pupils to achieve their potential. With outcomes now broadly in line with the National average across all areas including Key Stage 2 progress figures, again broadly in line with National standards in all subjects, we will continue to push forward, focussing on securing the best possible outcomes for your children, in the year ahead.

Stranger Danger

Please, please, please stay safe during the coming weeks. Make sure your child tells you where they are going and who they will be with. Arrange a time that you all know when you should be returning.

If they have a mobile phone, ask them to check in with you. Remind them that if anyone makes them feel uncomfortable to move away and to let you know immediately. We would like to welcome everyone back in September having had a fun, exciting and safe holiday. There are links on our website on keeping safe.

And Finally...

Keep safe in the sun, ensure sun cream is on and hats are worn. Enjoy the many ice-creams and hopefully long, hot days. We look forward to welcoming you all back on Wednesday 4th September. Have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Diane Mulley', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Diane Mulley
Acting Head Teacher



School Terms & Holidays for Academic Year 2019/2020

Term 1 Staff Training Day Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2019
School Opens: Wednesday 4th September 2019
School Closes: Friday 18th October 2019 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2*

Term 2 Staff Training Day Monday 28th October 2019
School Opens: Tuesday 29th October 2019
School Closes: Thursday 19th December 2019 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm*
KS2
Bank Holidays: Wednesday 25th and Thursday 26th December 2019
Wednesday 1st January 2020

Term 3
School Opens: Monday 6th January 2020
School Closes: Thursday 13th February 2020 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2*

Term 4
School Opens: Monday 24th February 2020
School Closes: Thursday 2nd April 2020 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm for*
KS2
Bank Holidays: Friday 10th April and Monday 13th April 2020

Term 5
School Opens: Monday 20th April 2020
School Closes: Friday 22nd May 2020 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2*
Bank Holiday: Friday 8th May and Monday 25th May 2020

Term 6
School Opens: Monday 1st June 2020
School Closes: Tuesday 21st July 2020 *at 3:10pm for FS2/KS1 and 3.20pm for KS2*
Staff Training Day Wednesday 22nd July 2020

School Closes at the end of the day.