

## Spalding Parish Church of England Day School

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[www.spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](http://www.spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

*'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 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

### End of Term 6

As this academic year 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 busy and challenging year, not least in the light of the pandemic that has impacted the last two academic years. 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 – despite the challenges they have faced including the period of remote learning earlier in the academic 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 an eventful year, your support for the pupils, staff and myself has been greatly appreciated. I know we continue to be 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 SPCEDS Local Council (formally known as Board of Governors) and staff team for their continued drive, support and commitment to the children and families of SPCEDS.

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, we are also present on the playground each day to support with any queries or concerns. It has been lovely to speak to so many of you over the year and know many of you find the SLT presence on the playground 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. We are committed to working together for the benefit of all but, as I'm sure you'll appreciate, we can only support if we know about it.

## Goodbye, Good Luck and God Bless

We have said a number of goodbyes at the end of this year to a number of members of staff – Jo Quincey, Jessica Cassidy and Charlotte Rowley, following us wishing Jane Williams, our School Business Manager, well when she left us earlier in the year. Jessica has decided to take a break from teaching to spend time with her own family, whilst Lottie is relocating to a different part of the country. Jo has secured a similar post in a smaller school, to further develop her experience. Please join with us in wishing them all well in their future endeavours. Remember to keep in touch, you will all always be welcome here at Spalding Parish as part of the Spalding Parish family.

## Welcome to Spalding Parish

As we say goodbye to valued members of the staff, we welcome a number of new members of staff to the team. In June, we welcomed Jo Crossley to the team, as our new Business and Operations Partner. More recently we have welcomed Rebecca Wakefield and Sarah Durno to the teaching team, with Rebecca teaching in Year 4 in the next academic year and Sarah teaching in Year 2. Please see below for an overview of Year Groups and class teachers for the next academic year alongside Year Group email addresses should you need to get in touch.

FS2 - Annabel Cooper, Laura McWilliam, Laura Hornsby – [fs2@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:fs2@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 1 - Annabel Cooper, Harriet Haddow, Rosie Goddard, Emily Wand (Rosie Goddard and Emily Wand are job sharing within Year 1) – [Y1@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y1@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 2 - Deborah Newnham, Aaron Robinson, Sarah Durno – [Y2@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y2@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 3 - Nicola Pettit, Emma Potts, Susan Hirst – [Y3@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y3@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 4 - Claire Hearth, Rebecca Wakefield – [Y4@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y4@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 5 - Kim Bird, Emma Weatherhill, Imogen Norris – [Y5@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y5@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

Year 6 - Katey Robinson, Amelia Siddall, Chris Clark – [Y6@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:Y6@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk)

## 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

Our recent Sports Days, whilst very different to the norm this year, were still very successful events. I would like to say a huge thank you to all involved for ensuring that the children were still able to take part and have fun, whilst managing the events safely. The children participated very well and the weather was kind to us, I think this is potentially the first year in a long while that the weather has not impacted our planned events, although unfortunately we could not say the same for COVID which did impact our FS2 event. All pupils in school had the opportunity to take part in a range of sporting activities, participating and co-operating with each other well and generally having a good time. We also welcomed Leon Baptiste, on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> June, who led activities with all the pupils over the course of the day. Leon is a former sprinter who won the gold medal in the 200m at the 2010 Commonwealth Games. We look forward to being able to invite parents and carers back to our school sports days during the next academic year.

## Curriculum Enhancement

With the current situation it has been a challenge to offer the extra-curricular activities and curriculum enhancements that we would normally offer over the course of the academic year. Despite this, we have managed a number of events including caring for the eggs and the chicks once they'd hatched in Year 2, an online workshop for Year 3 as part of their History topic and a visit to the High Ropes at the Fun Farm as part of the Year 6 pupils end of year celebrations. Thank you for your support with these trips/activities both in and out of school to engage your child in learning. 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. Parents and carers will receive a letter early in Term 1 giving details of planned visits for the year so please look out for it. Your continued support with such events is invaluable.

## Pupil Outcomes

As you will know from receiving your child's report recently, staff have been very busy assessing the pupils so that we can share with parents and carers both their successes and their next steps. We know many of you have commented on how useful you have found this information as it gives you a really clear picture of what your child is learning over the course of the academic year. This will continue into the year ahead through our termly reports – meaning you will have this information three times a year. We will also be sending our curriculum updates at the beginning of each long term to also inform you of the intended learning. Thank you to all of the parents/carers who have returned the report slip and/or completed the parent/carer questionnaire – it is invaluable information as we endeavour to ensure we are doing all we can for the benefit of all.

I also must say just how proud I am of all the children and all of their achievements during the current academic year. Despite facing two periods in the last eighteen months, where provision in school has been restricted, all have continued to work hard with some really positive outcomes evident over the course of the academic year. I am so, so proud to be part of such a fantastic learning community.

Again, I must say a huge thank you to the pupils, the staff, the SPCEDS Local Council and yourselves, as our parent body, for your continued support during such a challenging period, both while the pupils have been in school and whilst working at home during our restricted provision. As I'm sure you'll appreciate it is virtually impossible to duplicate online the provision the pupils receive whilst in school, however we were still able to offer virtually all pupils live sessions every day during this time. I know, from talking to a number of friends and colleagues, that this was not the case in many schools. Thank you again for all the positive feedback we have received in response to our offer. Whilst we hope we will not be in that situation again, please be assured that should we be we all remain focussed on securing the best possible outcomes for your children, in the year ahead.

## COVID Update

Finally, as we head into the summer break I just wanted to give you an update re school and control measures in place once we return in September. As you will no doubt be aware, we entered Step 4 in the Government's roadmap of releasing restrictions on Monday 19<sup>th</sup> July. However, it is also clear to see that cases continue to rise both locally and nationally. The Government has also announced their intention to review the current situation re COVID 19 in September.

As a school we are also very mindful that school life has looked very different for the last 18 months with pupils based within their classrooms. This includes the fact that we have not been together inside the school building for the same period with the only outdoor gathering for a fire drill, with relevant control measures in place. We are very aware that suddenly going from being in the classroom to being in the hall with over 550 pupils may well be too much for some children.

With this in mind, we have made the decision that we will continue with our current control measures once we return in September, with the children remaining in their classrooms and the staggered start and end of day in place. Over the course of Term 1, we will then gradually move back to our normal provision but in a safe and controlled manner, e.g. with one Year Group in the hall for Collective Worship initially, then perhaps a Phase (two Year Groups) and then a Key Stage. This will also allow us to respond promptly to any revised guidance that may come into being either during the summer break or in early September. Given the fact the restrictions have been in place for such a long time we just feel that a few more weeks to ensure the safety of all is entirely manageable and wholly appropriate.

The Government have also updated the guidance in relation to contact tracing in the light of the move to Step 4 in the Government's roadmap. From 19<sup>th</sup> July NHS Test and Trace will take over the responsibility of identifying close contacts from educational settings. This means that school will no longer be responsible for identifying contacts for a positive case. A further letter with regards to this alongside an information sheet from the Department of Education and NHS Test and Trace has also been shared with this newsletter. If you do have any questions please do not hesitate to get in touch via [feedback@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk](mailto:feedback@spaldingparish.lincs.sch.uk).

### Stranger Danger

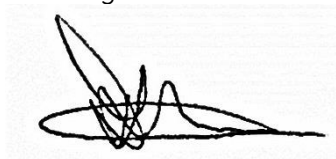
Please, please, please stay safe during the coming weeks. Make sure your child tells you where they are going and who they will be with. Arrange a time that you all know when you should be returning.

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 . .

I wish you all a fantastic summer break. With the current weather we are experiencing please keep safe in the sun, ensure sun cream is on and hats are worn. Spend time as a family, hopefully enjoying some of the things that we have not been able to do for such a long time. Enjoy the many ice-creams and hopefully long, hot days. I hope you all are able to just take some time to relax and recuperate after a year like no other. The staff and I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September. Have a peaceful and enjoyable summer.

Kind Regards,



Diane Mulley  
Head Teacher