



"We all play our part to achieve excellence in everything!"

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> September

**Welcome Back to School!**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to introduce myself to you all and to welcome everyone back to our four wonderful schools as we start the new academic year.

Having worked in a range of leadership roles in several different schools across the county and beyond, I know how vitally important primary school education is to all children. I believe in 'old-fashioned' values of hard work, perseverance and resilience and really do look forward to working with all of you and all of our brilliant pupils to try and make their years with us as happy and as productive as possible.

One of the first things new Headteachers tend to be asked is - "what are you going to change?" My initial answer to that question is simple - nothing! I know all four of our schools are such wonderful, happy places and I want to spend the first weeks of my time with the Federation getting to see how they work in practice and engaging with all stakeholders. Only after this will I begin to review what can be further developed or refined.

I very much look forward to meeting everyone and starting to work with all of the staff across the Federation. The senior teachers in each school will continue to be your day-to-day point of contact, but if there is ever anything you want to discuss with me please don't hesitate to get in touch via your school's office.

*Some other back to school information:*

**New Members of Staff**

I'm not the only one joining The Pilgrim Federation team! We are very fortunate that India Brabbs will be joining Walsingham School as a specialist Teaching Assistant and that Rachel Brooks will be the new secretary at Hindringham. They are both fantastic additions to our schools and I'm sure you'll join me in making them feel very welcome.

Blakeney C of E Primary School  
Wiveton Road, Blakeney  
Norfolk, NR257NJ  
01263 740531

Hindringham C of E Primary School  
Wells Road, Hindringham  
Norfolk, NR210PL  
01328 878323

Kelling C of E Primary School  
Salhouse Road, Kelling  
Norfolk, NR257ED  
01263 588230

Walsingham C of E Primary School  
Wells Road, Walsingham  
Norfolk, NR226DU  
01328 820265

## **COVID-19**

It is fantastic that schools can start to get back up and running like normal this term following such a prolonged period of change and upheaval because of the COVID-19 outbreak. We will obviously make sure all learning spaces are well ventilated and that regular, thorough hand washing is taking place, as well as ensuring visitors wear face coverings where appropriate. If you do feel your child has COVID symptoms, please don't send them into school - if this is the case, let us know and please arrange a PCR test.

I have discussed how things will operate in each school with the senior teachers and they have asked me to share the following information with you:

There will be no more operating in bubbles at the school, so all of the children will be free to mix together as they did before the COVID outbreak. Please continue to drop your children off at the gate (not the playground) from 8.30am each morning, ready for the start of school at 8.40am. In the afternoons, pupils can be collected from the playground at 3.10pm.

On days when the pupils have PE lessons, please can they wear their PE kit into school. School staff will let you know which days each class have PE.

Active Education afterschool clubs will resume next term - Monday: Blakeney, Tuesday: Walsingham, Wednesday: Hindringham, Thursday: Kelling. This half-term at Kelling is Cricket Club for Year 2, 3 and 4 children - see separate sign up form.

## **Attendance**

The Local Authority requires us to send out to you all the attached letter regarding pupils' attendance at school. Putting it simply, Headteachers can only approve absence from school in "exceptional" circumstances. Hopefully the attendance letter gives you all of the information you need with regards to this, but please do feel free to let me know if you would like to discuss this in further detail with me.

Kind regards and best wishes,

Mr Tom Snowdon  
Executive Headteacher