



## Lydgate Junior School

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06 December 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

### Parents' evenings

A huge thank you to everyone that came. It was wonderful to greet so many families back into school. We sent out an electronic questionnaire in November, we would really value everyone's feedback. The questionnaire is the same questionnaire that is given out when schools get inspected by OFSTED. Please fill in before Christmas.

### Prompt start to school reminder!

We have noticed that with the darker mornings some children are coming to school late. We open the main gate and the Y3 gate at 8.35am to allow a swift start to the school day. The school bell goes at 9.45am and we lock the gates at 8.50am. If you come after that time you must use the Shore Lane gate and report to the office, arriving after 8.50am is late.

### Staffing update

Mrs Angela Flynn our Phonics Lead has retired and we wish her a wonderful retirement after 20 years of supporting Lydgate Junior School.

We are delighted to say that Mrs Harriet Kaur is now our Phonics Lead.

Mr Andrew Jenkinson one of our TAs has also decided to retire at Christmas.

Mrs Nicki Mulqueen one of our TAs is moving at Christmas to America, how exciting.

We wish Mr Jenkinson and Mrs Mulqueen happiness on their next adventures and thank them for their commitment to Lydgate Junior School.

We welcome Mrs Eman Benelmokhtar and Ms Dafina Staykovska to Team Lydgate as new TAs that are starting after Christmas.

### First Term nearly complete

As I reflect on my first term at Lydgate Junior School I feel very welcomed and delighted on the journey **Team Lydgate** is going on together.

Here are our school priorities for this year.

### School priorities for 2022 to 2023

#### Priority 1

#### The Quality of Education

- Writing and handwriting is consistently taught to enable standards to improve and to increase greater depth writers
- Phonics is consistently high quality using 'Little Wandle' to enable all children to become fluent readers
- Lydgate offers a progressive curriculum that gives life experience and enables all children to access all subjects



## **Priority 2**

### **Behaviour and attitudes**

- Review and update behaviour policy link to RRS and Thrive approach with clear learning behaviours and expectations
- Consistent use of CPOMS and children's plans so all know how to support
- High expectations from all adults children to be ready to learn
- Adults are curious and engage and support all children
- Children and adults are supported and encouraged to be 'Rights Respecting'

## **Priority 3**

### **Personal development**

- Designated mental health lead – develop a whole school approach to promote mental health and well-being
- Thrive is introduced to support all children and help adults to understand
- Well Being @work – the well-being of all is intrinsic to schools values
- Inclusive school – all children are offered rich opportunities
- Forest school accessed by all children and impacts on learning behaviours

## **Priority 4**

### **Leadership and management**

- All leaders are working to improve outcomes across school for all groups of children – combined score increases
- All leaders are ensuring that Lydgate's Curriculum- intent and implementation is embedded consistently across school
- Communication at all levels enables all to feel included and supports all to help improve school
- All leaders are ensuring that Lydgate's Curriculum and vision is shared by all and consistently taught

Here is a summary of some of the things we have already achieved this term.

## **Autumn term 2022**

- School strap line established involving all Staff, Governors and Y6
- Curriculum leads – created new roles Curriculum lead, Phonics lead, Pastoral lead and Forest school lead
- Curriculum paperwork is becoming consistent and we are working on our Curriculum overview and key progression documents
- 'Little Wandle' Phonics set up in Y3, this is the same scheme used at The Infant school
- The Library has been re-developed using the same furniture to enable more children to access the library and create a calm safe space to be utilised during learning and social times
- We have improved our lunchtime offer, staff have been trained by a Sport specialist, we have lunchtime clubs and now have Y6s as Playmakers

- We have our Pastoral Lead available at lunchtimes running a games club in the activity area that anyone can access, we are encouraging key children to use this space
- Communication with parents has improved – photos of staff are now on the website, we have set up a school Facebook page and we now have class Twitter accounts and a main Twitter account that will connect to the website
- Communication with staff has improved increased TA meetings and a weekly staff briefing along side weekly diary and regular checking in
- SLT is established and meets weekly
- Pupil Voice is acknowledged – Eco club have set up two sales selling produce and costumes before Halloween. Y6s writing project has been writing persuasive letters to Mrs Hurding on how we can improve school. School council elections –time given for children to share their ideas.
- Set up Head teacher awards and VIP tea with the head for the stars of the week
- Mental Health has been a key focus in school, assembly themes, we took part in the World Mental Health day, 'Hello Yellow'
- All staff have had their introduction to Thrive training. Beth Noble Deputy has completed the Thrive leadership training and Mandy Allen Pastoral Lead has started the Thrive practitioner training. We now have access to the Thrive on line programme
- Head has completed Senior Mental Health Lead training
- New Tracker system for data is being set up we are going to use the same system as the Infant school -Tracker+
- Psychology students x6 have been a real asset to school
- We are setting up the Medical Tracker to improve communication re First Aid

We are really proud of everything we have achieved this term.

Thank you for all your support

*R Hurding*

**Mrs R Hurding**  
Headteacher