



SEATON VALLEY FEDERATION OF SCHOOLS

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Chair of Governors: Susan Dungworth
Executive Headteacher: John Barnes

19 July 2023

Dear all

Well we have made it to the end of the term, although like everyone I feel it has been a hard struggle at times! However, we are here and we only have a few days left to go. Can I thank everyone for all of their efforts and support in the last few weeks. This final term has seemed a very long one, so the way everyone has kept supporting the federation until the end of the term has been wonderful.

I was looking back at previous letters for this time of year and the whole Covid thing seems so long ago. Yet its impact is still with us and will be for some time to come I think!

The start of next year looks like it has always done before Covid happened. Each Head of School will let you know what the plans are for the pupils coming back to school. However, it is a training day on Monday 4th September so no pupils need to be in school on that day. School begins for all pupils on Tuesday 5th September.

I would like to give advance notice this year that the Federation schools have one training day that will be on a different date to the local first schools. This does not affect the first term but it will have an impact at Easter. The Federation schools will be open on Thursday 28 March 2024, however the first schools will be closed and then the Federation schools will be closed on Monday 15 April 2024 but the first schools will be open.

I would hope by now that everyone is aware of just how thankful I am to you as a parent body for your support in this difficult year. I naively thought everything would return to normal this year but sadly, it has not. Covid and its impacts are still having a big effect on all of us. We have managed to get through this year and ensure that the most important people, the students, have been able to access education, be supported in school, and we have kept going! At times, it has been very hard but we have made it!

Once again I must give special praise to my staff body who have done so much over the course of the year to ensure that the 3 schools have done as well as they have. The effort, care and attention that all of the staff have put in has been amazing and I am thankful for all they have done and I am sure you are too. I would also like to thank the leadership team of the Federation. It is fair to say that the skills, knowledge and abilities of the leadership team have been fully tested this year and I truly believe they have done a most fantastic job. So thank you to all of the staff of the Federation.

Considering just how difficult this year has been for all of us I think all of us associated with the SVF can take a great deal of pride and satisfaction in what we have achieved this year. Quality teaching has gone on in all 3 schools on a daily basis. Pupils have been able to access after school clubs and trips. We have had musical events at both schools and our sports teams have been in action. As a Federation, we have been able to not



only offer an excellent curriculum offer but also a tremendous amount of extracurricular activities. This is against a very difficult financial backdrop not just for the schools but also for families as well. The young people who attend the SVF are very lucky that they have such a rich diet of experiences. Likewise, those of us who work in the SVF are very lucky to teach and deal with fabulous young people.

I must also pay special attention to the wonderful support staff in each school who do so much often unseen to ensure that the 3 schools and the SVF run so well and provide such a fantastic environment for our young people.

Each school has done so well this year; you will be aware that Seaton Sluice was inspected in the penultimate week of the year. I cannot share with you the outcome yet but everyone at the school did very well and showed just what a fabulous place it is for both staff and pupils. It is no wonder we are all so tired when you think about what all of us have done this year.

At this time of year, there are always staff who make the choice to leave our Federation because they are moving onto new opportunities or they are retiring. This year we say goodbye to the following staff. I would like to take this opportunity to thank them for all they have done and wish them all the very best for the future. All of them have been a credit to the Federation.

- Mrs J Laszczewski ACHS/WMS Data & Exams Officer
- Miss L Dunlop ACHS Attendance Officer
- Mr L Carbutt ACHS PE Teacher
- Miss E Farrington WMS Teacher

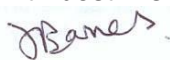
In September 2023, the following staff will join us.

- Mr J Leslie ACHS Maths Teacher
- Mr M Simpson ACHS PE Teacher
- Miss O O'Donnell ACHS English Teacher
- Ms V Loudon ACHS History Teacher
- Mrs S Kelly ACHS Science Teacher
- Miss J Airey ACHS Science Teacher
- Mr J Robinson ACHS Health and Social Care Teacher
- Ms H Dunn ACHS/SSMS French Teacher
- Miss J Fairbrother WMS KS2 Teacher
- Miss O Coxon ACHS/WMS Admin Apprentice
- Miss K Wilkinson ACHS Teaching and Learning Assistant
- Miss E Woods WMS Teaching and Learning Assistant
- Miss K Maddison SSMS Lunchtime Supervisor

I would like to welcome them to our federation and wish them all the very best. I am sure they will help our continued progress forward in all that we do.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a happy and pleasant summer holiday. Thank you for all you have done this year. To those who are leaving the federation this year because your child is leaving us my very best wishes to you and your child. To those of you joining us in September 2023 welcome and I hope you and your children have a fantastic time in the Seaton Valley Federation.

With best wishes



Mr John Barnes
Executive Headteacher