



C/O REAch2 Academy Trust | Scientia Academy | Mona Road | Burton on Trent | Staffordshire | DE13 OUF

Tel: 01283 246433 | Email: info@reach2.org
Website: www.newhallacademy.org | Twitter: @newhallacademy

Headteacher: Mrs Debbie Gayler BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH

Newsletter 2 27th March 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that everyone has had a lovely half term and that the children all enjoyed playing in the snow when the 'Beast from the East' descended on us. Hopefully we have now seen the last of the Winter and we can start enjoying some warmer weather as we move into the Summer Term.

National Offer day will soon be upon us and I am looking forward to sending out Offers for our first Reception intake. Please keep an eye on your inbox on 16th April, because we intend to send out Offer letters first thing. A paper copy will also be sent out and should arrive on this day.

There will be an opportunity for you to meet some of our staff, our Chair of Governors and see samples of the school uniform on the evening of Monday 16th April 2018, between 5pm and 7pm and on Saturday 21st April 2018 between 10am and 12pm at the Newhall Project Office, 56 The Chase, Harlow CM17 9JA.

General Update

I have now had my first meeting with the DFE (Department For Education) to discuss the Academy Education Brief and some of our key policies. The conversation took about an hour and we discussed plans for the Curriculum, Staffing, Governance, Pupil Numbers and preparing for our pre-opening Ofsted. The meeting went well and I am pleased that the DFE are satisfied with the plans so far.

I have attended various meetings relating to the build of the Academy and chosen toilet door colours (red and grey), hall flooring (3 different tones of wood) and door

masonry (brushed silver). It was also very exciting to see the interior designs for our Food Technology Room, which will enable us to teach cookery as part of our curriculum.

Both our ICT and Projects team have been working hard putting together a procurement pack so that we can go out to tender for technology and furniture. We are currently waiting for the tenders to come in from the different companies before furnishings and technology can be confirmed. I am also waiting for some designs to come in for our school library, as the aim is to have reading at the heart of the school and for the library to be an inviting and enjoyable place for our children to read and share stories.

The school uniform has now been finalised and will be produced and available through Create Identity. There will be samples on display during our events on 16th and 21st April 2018.

Before and After School Care

Thank you to everyone who returned a questionnaire. It was clear from the responses that there is certainly the need for Before and After School Care from 7.30am until 8.45am and from 3.15pm until 6pm. Once we know who will be running the Nursery next to the school, a decision will be made on whether to run our own Before and After School Club or to do this alongside the Nursery provider. I would like to reassure parents that there definitely will be Before and After School provision at Newhall. More information about this will be available at the 'New Parent' meeting which will take place on Wednesday 9th May from 6.30pm to 7.30pm at Pemberley Academy.

Governance

I now have regular meetings with Mr Paul McFarlane, our Chair of Governors. He is currently proof-reading all policies, ready for adoption and ratification at our first Transition Board meeting in May. We have also appointed a clerk from the Essex Clerking Service.

Staffing

I am delighted that we have been able to recruit really high quality staff for our first year at Newhall Primary Academy. Mrs Jenny O'Neill is currently working at a school in London and will be joining us as the EYFS Phase Lead, Mrs Charlotte Smart is currently working at a school in Chelmsford and will be joining us as our SENCo (Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator) and Mrs Donna Murphy is currently working at a neighbouring Harlow school and will be joining us as our School Business Manager.

An advertisement for a Site Manager will be placed after Easter and hopefully we will be just as fortunate with this appointment.

Curriculum

I am currently putting together a Long Term Plan for the Curriculum and will be liaising with the new staff to ensure that our curriculum is creative, engaging and challenging, whilst also developing resilient, confident and independent life-long learners. Over the next few months we will start to order resources to support the Curriculum, so that when the children arrive in September, we are fully equipped and ready to go!

Finally, I would like to thank you again for applying for a place for your child at Newhall Primary Academy. Over the coming months, I will try to keep you as fully informed as possible in the lead up to the opening of the Academy. I hope that you all have a lovely Easter Break and I look forward to working with you and your family in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Gayler', with a long horizontal stroke underneath.

Mrs Debbie Gayler