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Newsletter 3
25th May 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you to everyone who attended the new Reception Parent Information evening a couple of weeks ago. It was great to meet you all and share with you our vision for Newhall Primary Academy and Nursery. Thank you to everyone who has already returned their Pupil Information Forms and Breakfast and After School Club request forms. If you have not yet sent them in, then please can you bring them with you on 28th June to Wild 'n' Wacky?

General Update

Ofsted have now carried out their pre-opening inspection. This involved a lengthy discussion with an inspector about policies, safeguarding, health and safety and the curriculum. The inspector then accompanied me on a site visit to ensure that the building will meet all statutory requirements and will be fit for purpose. The meeting went well and I am pleased that Ofsted are satisfied with the plans so far. A letter will be published shortly regarding this.

I have attended various meetings relating to the build of the Academy. We have started to work with designers on signage and I have also selected where I want display boards put up around the school. There have been several visits to site to check on the progress that is being made. Every time I visit, I can see the progress that is being made.

The tender process for both furnishings and ICT are now back and I have met with suppliers to discuss our requirements. They are currently drawing up layouts for each

of the classrooms and learning areas. I have also had several designs completed for the library, which will be at the heart of the school.

Chase, the Newhall Bear, now has his own Twitter account @NewhallBear. He is posting weekly Challenges for you to complete with your child, if you have a spare half an hour.

Nursery

REAch2 were successful in the bid to run the Nursery so I am currently recruiting for a Nursery Manager and a Nursery Teacher. There will be more vacancies advertised after half term. I also will start marketing the Nursery and registering children shortly.

Governance

We held our first Transition Governing Board meeting last week. At this meeting we discussed the budget, curriculum, staffing, premises and the Board also approved and adopted most of our policies. Some of these are now available on the school website. I have also started to upload information about the curriculum onto the website.

Staffing

Those people who attended our 'Meet the Staff' events or the New Reception Parent meeting will have had the opportunity to meet Mrs Jenny O'Neill (EYFS Lead), Mrs Charlotte Smart (EYFS teacher and SENCo) and Mrs Donna Murphy (School Business Manager). I am really pleased that Donna is now working with me full-time and helping me with all of the recruitment and budgeting.

We have also successfully recruited a Site Manager, who will be joining the team in the middle of August. His name is Mr Callum Sykes and he is currently working at a school in Hertfordshire.

We will be interviewing for two Early Years Learning Support Staff after half term but we have already had lots of applications for these positions so I am hopeful that we will again be able to recruit high quality, experienced staff.

Curriculum

I have spent a lot of time over the last few months researching various programmes and schemes, and I am pleased to have now put together yearly overviews for the curriculum for each year group. Obviously, these will need to develop as staff and pupils join the school, but it means that I can now start ordering materials and resources after half-term.

Finally, I would like to thank you for choosing to send your child to Newhall Primary Academy and Nursery. I hope that you all have a fabulous half term and I am looking forward to working with you all in the years to come.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Debbie Gayler". The signature is written in black ink and is underlined with a single horizontal stroke.

Mrs Debbie Gayler