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**Headteacher: Mrs Charmaine Ward BA (Hons) QTS, NPQH**

**Nursery Manager: Mrs Stef Montgomery BA (Hons) EYP**

Date: 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff and Governors

### **A very successful half term**

It has been an extremely busy and productive Autumn half term and I could not be more proud of how we have collectively managed to sustain the structures and systems the school has in place to ensure that the children are not only kept as safe as humanly possible, but that the focus on their academic development and their wellbeing remains paramount to us all, especially their teachers.

Thank you for your understanding (and patience) with the first ever phone-in for our parent-teacher progress meetings. A phone call is not the same as meeting face-to-face and doesn't allow for sharing of curriculum coverage in your child's book, but it was very heartening to hear from the teachers how appreciative you all were of the opportunity to at least discuss what is going well, where the areas for development might be and how you can help your child at home.

### **A specific area for development**

One area which has been raised as a concern is the traffic congestion we continue to face outside the school at school-run times and the impact that this could have on our pupil safety as well as any potential inconvenience caused in the surrounding neighbourhood.

We are liaising with South Essex Parking Partnership who have developed a new initiative called 3PR (3 Parking Rules) to help us tackle some of the parking problems outside our school and who will assist us in 'actively engaging with our school community including the local residents, to promote good working relationships and to understand the needs of everyone. The main aim is to influence parking behaviours so that healthier lifestyles are developed and the road immediately outside the school is clearer and safer for all users.'

I will keep you all informed of steps taken (including a review of our current travel plan) toward improving the drop-off and collection time traffic congestion. If you have any suggestions or would like to support me in working toward safer options in this regard, please email the school office at [office@newhallacademy.org](mailto:office@newhallacademy.org) to share your ideas and interest.

### **Half term break**

We look forward to having our children back at school on **Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**.

IF the government should make any changes to the way in which schools are currently managing the pandemic, we will keep you informed of our response to those changes.

May I take this opportunity to thank you all for your kind support and to wish you and your children a very safe half term.

Yours Sincerely

Mrs Ward 