



Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September

Dear Parents/Carers

**Changes over summer**



As you will have seen we have made amazing changes to our Outdoor and Sensory Areas with the extremely generous help of some of our parents and a group from the National Citizen Service. We have also created a new Twitter Page which is <https://twitter.com/IngoldsbyAcad>.

### **Staff Introductions:**

We are very pleased to welcome our new members of staff:

Badger Class teacher, Elizabeth Canny  
Student teacher for Owl Class, Sarah Hall,  
One to one teaching assistant in Hedgehogs, Steph Fleurie

### **Things that we are offering over the next academic year:**

Over this year Staff will be getting bespoke CPD in Singing (through the Voices Foundation) and Dance (Employed by DRET). Both of these initiatives will provide the school with specialist coaches who will work with classes, talent spot- and offer the opportunity to develop skills further.

Staff on our INSET day enjoyed some Outdoor Learning Training where we looked to plan active and engaging activities into our normal practice with a view to develop teamwork and communication skills. Additionally we are working with David Hawes who is delivering a WOW day on the 28th September then working with Children and staff throughout the year to deliver an exciting and active curriculum that links in with our topic planning.

At least 1 external sports coach will deliver an after school club each week, alongside Mrs Bland's Sports Club. In addition to this there will also (when the appointment has been made) be a dance club each week.

The music service will continue to deliver whole class instrument until Christmas and there will also be an early years unit.

We will do our best to ensure that children already having individual music lessons continue throughout the year.

Changes to the way we communicate with parents are in the pipeline. This will be called 'PS Engage' which will enable us to send text, email or app according to your preference and enable you to reply and complete forms via the app. We will also be introducing Parent Pay towards Christmas which will allow you to pay bills online.

### **Changes within DRET**

I mentioned at Sports Day that we had a new CEO called Rowena Hackwood. There is a lot of change happening within the Trust which is fast paced and ambitious.

I spoke to Rowena over the Summer and asked her what she would like you to know about the DRET vision.

#### ***'Our aim is to provide a world class education for all children within our Trust***

*This comes from a belief that irrespective of a child's start in life, they have a right to expect that their education should be second to none. I am an example of this, brought up by a single mum on family credits, but through my education achieved a degree from Cambridge University, a career where I have always felt that not even the sky was the limit, and broad and enriched opportunities from my education that remain with me to this day, whether sports coaching, playing, umpiring, event organising etc - all of which keep me happy, fit and healthy, and a part of my community.*

*I am working with my senior team and AILs to imagine and define what we mean by world class, thinking big, and fighting furiously against the idea that 'good enough' and 'national average' are good enough for ourselves and our pupils. In essence, this is covered by the ideas of:*

***An outstanding education within the classroom*** - great teaching, outstanding curriculum, strong leadership, behaviour, high expectations, high aspirations

***An outstanding education outside the classroom*** - broad and enriched, with big horizons and amazing opportunities for personal growth and character development whether in sport, music, culture or adventure

***Strong connections with our communities*** - schools that are valued by our communities, preferred by our parents, chosen as first choice, well used and well-loved, and where a DRET education from 2-18 is an aspiration.

*To make sure that we achieve this, we will aim to deliver:*

***Outstanding support services*** that offer great value for money and great support, and which enable teachers and leaders to focus on teaching, inspiring and leading

***Well trained, high performing and motivated staff*** who aspire to develop their careers within the Trust and remain for the long term

***A culture of no excuses:*** all of us working together to move barriers to world class and challenge and motivate one another to achieve this'.

Rowena Hackwood

### **What can you do to help?**

- This term there is a big push on appearance. Please make sure that children have the correct uniform and sports kit. I am aware of the delay in ordering uniform from MAPAC and have a meeting with an alternative supplier who are offering a much quicker and slightly cheaper service so bear with me.
- Ensure that all homework is completed. We are issuing new Google Classroom codes. In the parents survey most people said that they preferred set days for homework so...Homework will be set no later than Thursday evening and collected every Wednesday Spelling tests from Years 1 to 6 will be generally on a Wednesday also.
- Make sure children read 5x a week- New Reading diaries have been issued.
- Aim to be in school for 8.45am
- Join in with school events and fundraisers: bring friends and family!
- If you have any ideas or worries, don't hesitate to get in touch.

## Dates for your Diary

Event	Date
11+ 2 <sup>nd</sup> paper	22.09.17
WOW Day	28.09.17
School Photographs	02.10.17
Choir Sessions with The Voices Foundation	03.10.17
Outdoor Learning Day	05.10.17
Reception Class Photos (Grantham Journal)	10.10.17
Macmillan Coffee Afternoon	19.10.17 at 2.30 pm
Last day of Term 1 (Friday)	20.10.17
First day of Term 2 (Tuesday)	31.10.17

## Reminders

**Swimming**- Children need fitted trunks or a swimming costume with no skirt, a swimming hat and a towel. Earrings cannot be worn.

**PE kits**- Can parents please check that trainers or plimsolls fit and that children have the correct kit including socks.

**Wellies**- We would like it if, as the weather deteriorates, children kept wellies in school so that they are able to access the field and outdoor classroom all year round.

**Hair**- Hair that is long enough to be tied up, needs to be brushed and secured with plain or red hair accessories.

Mel Capes  
Associate Principal