



## **HIGH LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

21st October 2021

**Dear Parents/Carers, Staff and Governors,**

As the first half term of the year draws to a close, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our amazing team of staff, our PTFA and our governors for their dedication and commitment to our pupils and families. Without exception, they continue to go way above their role and/or working hours to ensure that our children's educational and emotional needs are met and that everyone has the very best chance to learn and thrive at High Lane.

A huge thank you must go to you too. As a school, we continue to feel supported and trusted by you, our parent and carer community. Throughout the challenges of the last two years, it's good to know that our whole community has pulled together and looked after each other. It is because of this that we continue to move towards a strong recovery together too.

### **Parent/Carer Consultations**

Due to LA public health advice, we are again unable to facilitate face-to-face parent consultations, as we would prefer. Their current advice is for schools to avoid indoor events where large numbers of adults would be mixing in close proximity with staff and each other. This is because of the high numbers of infections we are seeing in Stockport at the moment and is part of the drive to ensure schools retain the staffing capacity to function effectively. In order to enable you to discuss your child's progress and any concerns you or their teacher may have, we will be organising a phone consultation with you between November 2<sup>nd</sup> and November 12<sup>th</sup>. Class teachers will be in touch via ClassDojo after half term to organise a convenient time with you during their allocated consultation appointment slots.

We know that many of you were disappointed not to be able to share your children's work with them at parent consultations last year. In response to this we will be offering you the opportunity to arrange a short appointment when small numbers of children can bring a parent to their classroom after school to look at their work. Time slots for these appointments will be offered towards the middle of November.

### **PTFA Fundraising**

Thank you so much to those of you who are in a position to support the PTFA fundraising efforts at this time – either through joining in with online events or through your regular donations. The PTFA are doing a fantastic job of supporting the school, both financially and in promoting HLPS in the local community. They have thought carefully about what is possible within the constraints we currently have and continue to plan for a Christmas fundraising fair in December, using our fantastic outdoor environment as much as possible. They are also planning to support many of our additional Christmas events as they did last year. Watch out for the flier your children will be bringing home today for more information.

If you have time to spare please consider offering to help the PTFA. Fundraising events are still happening, albeit in a different way, and they are still fully involved in planning and delivering those special events that our children love.

## **Year 6 Application for High School**

We would like to remind our Year 6 parents that the final date for application for High Schools is 31<sup>st</sup> October 2021 and can be accessed through the Stockport Council website. It is essential that applications are made by this date as late applicants are automatically allocated the closest school with places available once all other pupils in the area have been allocated their school.

## **Circusology**

Following a generous donation from one of our families who wanted the children to be able to enjoy something special after the difficult couple of years they have had, we have been able to book a day of circus skills for the whole school to enjoy on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> November. We look forward to having some fun and learning something new and a little bit different.

## **Additional dates for your diary**

Individual/sibling school photographs: Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> November

Children in Need Pyjama Day: Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November (more details to follow after half term)

## **School Dinners**

The return to full tray service has worked really well this half term and the kitchen is again fully up and running. Please be aware that meals orders must be completed by three clear working days beforehand so that Mrs Maguire can ensure she can meet all the meal requirements. If you do not order by the deadline, your child will not be given the option to choose a meal and will be given whatever is available on that day, taking allergies into account.

## **Welcome and Farewell**

We would like to take this opportunity to welcome our new members of staff Mrs Daley and Mrs Beard. Mrs Daley has been working as supply TA in school and we are delighted that she has now formally joined our staff team. We would also like to welcome Mrs Beard to our cleaning team and wish her well in her role.

Also, I am writing to inform you, following a period of illness, that Miss Melissa Wyche has offered her resignation which the Governing Body have accepted. Miss Wyche joined the school in 2013 and taught in Year 1. Many of our junior pupils will have fond memories of their time in her class and, in particular, her creative activities, kindness and engaging lessons. We thank her for her contribution during her time teaching at our school and wish her well in the future.

## **And finally**

As you are aware, it is an INSET Day tomorrow so the children finish for their half term break this afternoon. I hope you are all able to enjoy some well-deserved downtime with your family and look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November 2021.

Yours sincerely

Alison Humphries  
Headteacher