

Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

We are looking forward to welcoming you and the children back to school on **Wednesday 6th September**. Over the next two INSET days, we are preparing for the start of a new academic year and looking at each school's improvement priorities, our end of year data, as well as looking at the statutory updates around behaviour, Ofsted, Safeguarding, assessment etc.

I hope you have had a brilliant summer holiday and that you and your families had some time to relax. Typically, the weather always improves as soon as children return to school and we are expecting some hot days ahead.

Whilst the schools have been closed to children, there have been the usual site works - deep cleans, some decorating, repairs etc. to make our sites look fresh and updated. Excitingly, the hall at Colvestone is now complete and we are just waiting on some decorating and then we can use it as normal.

Some **new faces** across our schools, so a big official welcome to the Blossom family to Sevcan Kelebek, Hayley Jukes and Charles Riviera at Lauriston, Charlie Howard, Joana Leitao, Anisha Miah, Pavitra Dave, Alice Harley and Ellen Power at Sebright; Sandra Chrzanowska at Daubeney and Sinead Miller and Teuta Krueziu at Colvestone. We look forward to working with you.

You may be aware from media coverage that the government has asked some schools to close or partially close due to the presence of reinforced autoclaved aerated concrete (RAAC) in their school buildings. We understand that this is an unsettling news story and that it may naturally have led you to wonder about the safety of our school buildings. All school and children's centre buildings within our federation do not contain RAAC and are fully safe to open. I hope that this provides reassurance, and we look forward to welcoming your child to our safe and secure learning environment.

The Mayor of London has implemented a Free School Meal fund for all primary aged children until the end of July 2024. This means children in Reception to Y6 are all entitled to a free meal. Nursery children still have to pay however, and we are keen for any historical school dinner debts to continue to be settled or repaid on any agreed payment plans.

Please familiarise yourself with our term dates for the year. These are <u>here</u> and on the school websites. The school websites have all been updated for the new year and I hope to launch our Blossom Site in a few weeks time. You will also receive information about forthcoming Meet the Teacher meetings and individual school dates for your diaries.

Here we go again.....looking forward to seeing you at the gates this week.

Yours sincerely,

Robin Warren

Executive Head Teacher

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