

Monday 4th September 2023

Dear Parents & Carers

We have had a very positive start to the term and things are already in full swing across the Federation. We have been really pleased by parental support at our Meet the Teacher events. Thank you for engaging with these. It has been lovely catching up with you on the gates and meeting some of our new little ones.

We had our first Federation Governing Body this week (Colvestone is coming up soon) and we have a few new members both to the full board, and the Local School Committees. This is very positive. Welcome to James, Ohemaa and Mette to the Governing Body. And a welcome to Tom & Pandora and Lowell & Stephanie on the Daubeney and Lauriston Local School Committees retrospectively. I am also pleased to announce Katie Beck as our new Federation SEND and Safeguarding Link Governor.

This week, each of our schools will publish their School Development Plans and a School Development Newsletter. This will outline our goals for the forthcoming year. These are informed by your feedback, staff input, data drivers, national initiatives and our own strategic direction about how to develop our children's learning further. The website calendars should all be up to date with key information for you.

Last week, we received Lauriston's Ofsted Report which judged the school once again as 'good'. It is a very positive summary of the school's hard work and Louis and I are very pleased. It will shortly be published on the Ofsted website, but you can read it here. We also had a lovely Coffee Morning with parents at Daubeney this week which allowed us to share our future plans as well as here from you.

You will know that over the summer, Twitter became X. This came with a few changes, including that the site cannot be embedded on our websites. As 'Twitter' and my Instagram site positively help promote the work of our individual schools and the Federation as a whole, we are going to stay with X until the full changes from the company are complete. Then we shall review. There are pros and cons to the many social media platforms available, but we receive really encouraging feedback from those of you who follow the different sites.

I know you have kept a very important date in the diary, but on the evening of Tuesday 17th October, we are premiering the Blossom Federation performance of Windrush 75 at the Hackney Empire. If it is good enough for the Rolling Stones, it is good enough for us. More information will be shared very soon about tickets. We are tremendously excited about this!

Lastly, we are learning of rising Covid cases across the country with the new variant Pirola present. There is no new guidance for schools and educational settings, nor any expectation for Covid testing. The message that if you are well enough to come to school, you should. If you are not well enough to come to school, stay at home. This applies to children and staff. <u>Flu vaccinations</u> are available for primary and some secondary aged children. We also await news of an updated vaccine booster programme.

As always, don't forget, a reminder about our social media channels which will show you more of what goes on at the Federation @BlossomExecHT on Twitter and Instagram as well as the school Twitter / X sites:

DaubeneyHackney

@SebrightPrimary

@LauristonSchool

ColvestoneC

@daubeneycc

@sebrightcc

Yours sincerely,

Robin Warren

Executive Head Teacher

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