



SHEERNESS WEST FEDERATION

Isle of Sheppey, Kent



Executive Head Teacher: Steve Davies

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Head of Schools: Hazel Brewer (West Minster) and Rachael Sherrad (Rose Street)

Business manager: Diane Jones

Tuesday 20th September 2016

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers,

I am writing to welcome you back after what seemed to be a very long summer break this year, to the new academic year.

As you will have noticed by now the building programme at both schools is now in full swing. The steel frames of both new buildings are well and truly in place now. Keir the building company, have really pushed on over the summer and are already starting to put the stone floors and brick exteriors in place.

Rose Street has had extensive internal work done over the summer to ensure that the environment for the children continues to improve. Our new conservatory Library building situated in the sea garden, is really impressive and we hope to have this open for the children and operative in a couple of weeks.

We have also created a more spacious entrance foyer and are working hard to ensure that the school continues to be even more accessible to parents and children.

We also managed to decorate and improve some of the older classrooms at West Minster fitting new doors to the toilet areas in them and giving the entrance area a facelift.

I am determined to continue to find the funds to ensure that both schools' environments continue to improve for the children and we make sure that the older parts of our buildings are effectively maintained and are effective spaces for the children to learn and play.

There is a temporary new nursery building at West Minster which was delivered and fitted out in the summer holidays and the nursery staff have been busy ever since the delivery to make sure that both the internal and outside play space is highly effective and ready for when the children start to arrive. This was needed as the new third reception class has to now be accommodated in

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the old nursery building. Once the new building is opened the nursery will be re-sited there. This does mean though that all the reception children will be kept together.

All federation staff attended the INSET day on Monday 5th September where we were able to look at our priorities for the year ahead. We have produced a draft federation Quality Improvement Plan which will drive all that we do this year. Once this has been agreed by governors I will be sending copies of the main priorities out to all parents and carers. These priorities will be shared with the children in assemblies and is something that I know will help us to further improve the educational opportunities we provide for the children of the Sheerness West community.

We also welcome some new faces to the teaching and support staff teams this year and I am sure by now they have made themselves known to you. I am delighted that they have joined our federation and I know they are going to further improve what we are doing at both schools.

Teachers' newsletters will be coming out to you over the next few days to inform you of the wonderful things we are planning to do with your children this term and I will also be sending out key dates that are coming up and these will also be posted on our websites. The Parents' Forum dates will be part of this and I urge as many parents as possible to attend these meetings as it is a good chance for you to express your opinions and for us to listen and act upon these. It is also a good opportunity for me to keep you informed of ongoing events and happenings at the schools.

I am really glad to be back and really looking forward to pushing on with improving both schools to ensure that they continue to be excellent places of learning for all our children.

I am really looking forward to working with you and your children again this year and please do not hesitate to say hello in the playground or if you need to discuss anything with me or any members of the schools' leadership teams please contact the school office to arrange an appointment.

Best wishes,

Steve Davies (Executive Head Teacher)



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