

Monday 18th December 2017

Dear parent(s) / carer(s),

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for your support during my first term as Head teacher at The Key. Having started this role in September of this year I can say that the first term has been really enjoyable. As some of you will already know, I left my previous Headship at HMYOI Feltham in West London and have relocated to work with children here in Fareham and Gosport.

This first term has brought about a lot of changes, and again I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring the children are working positively with these new changes. We have introduced a uniform, a new set of behaviour expectations and also a new rewards and incentives policy. Many of the children have been really successful with the rewards and I am sure you have all heard about how many points they have been earning so that they can spend them before the Christmas break. Included in this system is a restorative approach to behaviour sanctions, where children are able to 'earn back' privileges if they have received behaviour warnings. This system has allowed us to support the pupils to modify their own behaviour and so far a huge number of behavioural incidents have been rectified by the children with this restorative approach with their tutors.

We have also embedded some new areas of alternative curriculum, including animal care, nurture group, enterprise, team building and problem solving. The review at the end of this term has been to continue to work with these areas as they have proven to be successful with the pupils. Our aim is to provide a curriculum that removes barriers to learning and allows our pupils to thrive. We have four new members of the Student Council and have been taking their suggestions on board and we have also introduced cooked, hot dinners on a Monday and Wednesday including a breakfast club which began only two weeks ago which has already been very well received by the children.

We have celebrated World Food Day and held two activity days based around our new school values of Respect, Resilience and Aspiration and have also collected food for the local food bank. We are planning a number of equality and diversity events for the calendar next year and these will be on display in the school when you come to visit. We will also be repeating our parent/carer event which took place on 6th December at the end of every term so that you are able to come and see the fantastic work that your children have been involved in.

*Respect * Resilience * Aspiration*

The team and I are constantly reviewing the provision to ensure that we are meeting the needs of the children and in 2018 this will be no different. My vision is that within the next three years we will become a Centre of Excellence in creating an 'attachment-focused and trauma-informed community.' If any of you would like to know more about this process and how your child will benefit from this provision then I am more than happy to speak with you at any point.

I would just like to end this letter by stating what a privilege it has been getting to know all of your children over this first term. I am lucky to work with a highly committed team of staff that all demonstrate on a daily basis how much they care about our pupils and how resilient they are at encouraging growth and progress. I am looking forward to 2018 and am equally committed to ensuring we continue to have high aspirations for your children.

I am wishing you all a very Happy New Year.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L. Forde-Nassey
Head teacher