



# The Federation of Gedney Hill CoE and Shepeau Stow Primary Schools

December 2020



Dear Parents and Carers

At the end of a term that has been so different I would like to update you with what has been happening in school.

We are very proud to say that the children returned to school with a such a positive attitude to learning and a resilience that has amazed us all. The impact of the pandemic seems to have created a group of children that have grown in independence in school. Our reception children run in daily with a spring in their step waving to parents at the gate.

As a staff we have taken the positives from the situation. Our children really enjoy their playtime bubbles, reduced lunchtimes is also supporting positive behaviours. Children coming into school on PE days already changed and ready has increased the amount of time they actually get for PE.

Thank you all for supporting the staggered start and end of the day. As everyone has been so sensible we are able to reduce the timings so that the first group arrive at 8.45am and departure will change accordingly. Please check your Parentmail for an update today please. This will enable us to be back to a prompt start to learning from 9am.

## Curriculum for the Spring Term

Following our recent assessments, the majority of our pupils are closing the gap from lockdown rapidly. The additional Maths and English daily has supported this. From January we are returning to a fuller curriculum. Spelling is still an area for us to focus on and we welcome your support with encouraging the children from Year 1 to learn their weekly spellings. These will continue to be on our website under the class pages.

You will all receive a topic newsletter and Knowledge Organizer for your child's class ready for next term. We have some very exciting topics to look forward to. During lockdown Mrs Bamby and I spent time reviewing our curriculum to ensure it is purposeful and relevant to the children in our schools. Progression mapping is in place across the school for all subjects. These documents will all be uploaded to our website. We are currently colour coding them to show how we believe they link to the key elements of our curriculum intent. We are excited to share these with you to ensure you have a good understanding of our intent and how we are implementing it.

It just remains for me to say thank you for all the support you have given us this year. You have been amazing. Have a lovely Christmas and please stay safe and well.

Yours sincerely

Alison Buddle

Executive Headteacher



**Our Vision** is to ignite imagination and curiosity which builds an enduring passion for life-long learning