



SCHOLARS ACADEMY TRUST

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Company Number: 8515149

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Trust Newsletter December 2020

Dear Parents / Carers

Welcome to the latest newsletter after what can only be described as a term with plenty of upheaval but one in which the school staff have shown fabulous resilience and adaptability. Credit should also go to your children as they returned to school at the start of term eager to learn and be with their friends. As always, the children within the Scholars schools have shown that nothing can beat them. They settled into school quickly and were eager to continue with their learning but unlike reports you will have heard of children falling behind in their learning, we have found that despite the disruptions of lockdown, the children had retained much of the prior learning. This was fabulous to see and it is thanks to the teachers for their tremendous teaching prior and during lockdown. Thanks also go to you as parents for ensuring that your children continued to build on their learning by supporting the online lessons. This is a clear example of how parents and schools working in partnership can help children to achieve their best.

This year everything has been a little different but as you know there are still many things that the children have been able to undertake. Despite the need for children to self-isolate teachers have ensured that the children continue to cover all the work that is required within the year groups. On either side of the recent lockdown Glenfield did manage to get people in to undertake workshops on Toys and Vikings for the relevant year groups. Other school visits had been planned but the second lockdown meant that those needed to be cancelled. However, staff have been making use of the online workshops to motivate and engage the children.

Additional activities such as Children in Need and Christmas Jumper days have taken place. As usual the children have enjoyed the activities even if we could not come together as whole schools.



The pantomime visits could not take place so we bought the pantomime to the children. Jack and the Beanstalk became virtual for the children and those self-isolating could also access it.

During the term there has been some children who have had to self-isolate due to positive cases but we have found that most of the cases were related to out of school transmissions and mostly through family contacts. The staff have worked hard during those periods often having to meet the needs of the children in school and home at the same time hence increasing their workload. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the staff for their efforts and I know they are all looking forward to

a well-earned rest at Christmas.

In other news I would like to inform you that one of the Scholars Trustees, Rob Padgett has just reached the 30-year milestone as a governor and now as Trustee. This is a remarkable achievement and needs

celebrating. He has selflessly served the school communities and working tirelessly to ensure children are well looked after by schools both on the academic and pastoral sides. We look forward to another 30 years from Rob.

Helen Elliot, one of the Trustees has now retired and we wish her all the best for the future but we welcome Lynn Bruce, an ex headteacher with a wide experience of schools including special needs provision. I know she will be an asset to the Trust Board with her wealth of knowledge. We also say good bye to Nick Benton who has provided much support to the Trust Board with his legal background.



The Governing Bodies of both schools have been working hard in the background ensuring that schools have been following all the latest guidelines under the Covid rules but at the same time holding school leaders to account on the academic aspect so that children's learning is at the forefront of everyone's minds as well as keeping them safe. Launde and Glenfield have both recently recruited two new governors to their individual Governing Bodies so we look forward to working with them. I would like to thank the Governing Bodies of both schools for the support they have given to the senior leaders over the past year, this has been much appreciated.

Over the holiday period senior leaders will still be in duty up until 24 December as directed by the DFE. Senior leaders would be grateful if you could inform the schools as soon as possible should anyone test positive so that the appropriate action can be taken in terms of Track and Trace.



I would once again like to say a big thank you to parents for all their support during this difficult term, I hope you are able to enjoy the Christmas period safely with your families. I am sure you will join me in thanking the school staff for all their hard work in ensuring your children have been kept safe whilst learning.

On behalf of the Trustees I would like to wish you all Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Best wishes

Handwritten signature of Inderjit Sandhu in black ink.

Inderjit Sandhu
Executive Headteacher

