Monday 7th September

Dear Parent(s)

Welcome back from the summer holiday; we hope that you all had a lovely break. We are pleased to welcome our new reception children, and those children joining our federation in other year groups.

As we start the new academic year, I wanted to take the opportunity to explain the leadership structure of the federation and my role in particular. As most of you are aware, my position as Executive Headteacher is a strategic role across the 3 schools. I am responsible for ensuring that all schools are providing high quality teaching and learning, operating effectively and delivering enriching experiences and results for children and families in our local communities.

Mrs French, Mrs Matthews and Mrs Morris provide leadership and management on a day to day basis as your Heads of Schools. They are your first point of contact for any concerns that cannot be sorted out with class teachers. My time on each site will vary each week depending on the needs of each school and the very busy schedule of work that is carried out across the federation.

It is important to me to remain an integral part of each school community and get into classrooms to speak with children, work alongside staff and parents as much as possible. There will be times however that I may need to focus on certain activities behind the scenes that ensure the ongoing success and continued improvements that our children deserve.

We are proud of how successful the introduction of a Federation Special Educational needs coordinator and learning Mentor has been, and both Mrs Matthews and Mrs Wells will continue to fulfil these roles for the federation this academic year.

We are extremely lucky to have governors who take a strong lead in monitoring our provision to ensure every child is receiving high standards of education, development and support. Many governors also play an active role in supporting learning activities and events.

The Fenland Federation
North Cotes CE Primary
Marshchapel Primary
Grainthorpe Primary
Marshchapel
Grimsby
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DN36 5SX
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North Cotes CE Primary
Sea Lane
North Cotes
Grimsby
Lincolnshire
DN36 5UZ
Tel/Fax 01472 388379

Grainthorpe Primary
Fen Lane
Grainthorpe
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LN11 7JY
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Attendance and Punctuality

It is the legal responsibility of parents to ensure their child attends school and is on time. Good attendance at school enables children to cope more easily with school routines and work, thereby making learning more satisfying and ensuring greater progress both socially and academically.

If your child is unwell you must inform us on the first day of absence by 9.15am and also on any subsequent days after. To safeguard all children, it is our policy to follow up any unexplained absences immediately. We monitcr attendance closely and want to work with all families, to ensure every child in our federation has good attendance and punctuality.

Amendments to the 2006 regulations remove references to family holiday and extended leave as well as the statutory threshold of ten school days. The amendments make clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are “exceptional circumstances.” The definition of what constitutes exceptional is down to the schools discretion, however, if an event can reasonably be scheduled outside of term time then the absence request will normally be refused. Any leave of absence request must be made through a meeting with Heads of Schools. It is our policy to report to the local authority any child who exceeded more than 5 unauthorised absences during the year. This may or may or not be of a consecutive timescale. The local authority then may issue a fixed penalty notice. Please be aware school does not receive this income.

Partnership with Parents

Effective education is a partnership between parents and carers, the school and the students. If we work together, we will ensure that this partnership achieves the best possible outcomes for our pupils. Attached to this letter is our new home school agreement. I would be grateful if you would share this with your child and return to school a signed copy at your earliest convenience. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to speak to your Head of School. A copy can also be found on the website.
The Fenland Federation
North Cotes CE Primary School
Marshchapel Primary School
Granthorpe Primary School

Interim Executive Head Teacher: Mrs Kelly Atterby

This academic year we are hoping to invite you into school on a more regular basis through information workshops, training, opportunities to join in with and discuss your child’s learning and progress and also through our popular celebration assemblies.

All three schools have PTA’s that raise valuable funds to support us in a variety of ways. New and existing parents are encouraged and welcomed at meetings and of course events. If you think you have time to support in this capacity, then please again contact Heads of Schools who can give you more information.

A new and exciting venture we will be launching is a Federation Parent Council. The main functions of the council will be to further understand aspects of school life, represent the views of parents and promote contact and communication between school, parents and pupils. During this term we will be preparing an initial agenda and arranging the first meeting.

Website

We have been working hard to make changes to our website. We want it to be the hub of our school community and a source of information for both current and prospective parents. Further developments will continue, and we welcome any feedback or suggestions.

As we start another exciting year, I hope that you will continue to work closely with us to develop the schools within our federation. These improvements and opportunities for the children are made even more possible with your support and I look forward to seeing you over the coming term. Welcome back and let us look forward to a successful 2015-16 academic year together.

Yours sincerely

Kelly Atterby
(Executive Headteacher)