

### News from the Federation – 7th January 2022

Welcome back everyone and Happy New Year. We hope that you have all managed to stay safe and had a well-deserved, restful break.

You will have seen in the news, that the cases of the Omicron variant continue to grow across the country. As with other schools, this is also affecting our staff at the Federation and we are therefore experiencing challenges when requiring cover due to illness and self-isolation. To help ensure that we can keep classes open and staffing at levels where we can continue to operate safely, we are again asking parents (and those visiting the school) to wear a face mask when coming onto the school grounds and premises. We very much appreciate everyone's help and support in following this guidance.

It seems unbelievable to think that it was nearly two years ago that we saw the first cases of Covid emerging in Wuhan (Jan 2020). During this time, we have had to find new ways of working and have missed the involvement of parents and carers in the school.

In school last term, each class chose one of the UNICEF rights of the child to represent on a canvas to be displayed in each school. We were so impressed by the quality of the children's ideas and ways to represent those rights. Here are a few examples:

All classes will be sharing the curriculum themes and learning foci for this half term in their half termly curriculum overviews. We have lots of exciting plans for the year ahead, and we hope you enjoy finding out about how you can support your child with their learning in school. These will be available and sent out to parents next week.

In response to feedback, we will also be trying to streamline communications between home and school and enable parents to have a greater involvement in the life of the school, despite the current restrictions. This is a priority in the year ahead, and we look forward to sharing our ideas in the coming weeks and ensuring that you have the information you need to be able to support your children.

We look forward to working with you all in the year ahead and hope that 2022 will see us being able to invite parents into school to see the wonderful things taking place across the federation.

### Term Dates

#### Spring Half Term

Monday 14<sup>th</sup> February 2022

#### Last day of Spring Term

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

#### First day of Summer Term

Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2022

#### Summer Half Term

Friday 28<sup>th</sup> May 2022

#### Last day of Summer Term

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2022

### Applying for Reception

If your child is currently at our nursery it does NOT mean your child will automatically move into Reception.

Parents of Nursery children will receive a letter reminding them that they need to apply for a Reception place by the 15th January 2022. Please submit your applications via the following website:

[Primary school admissions - September 2022 - Cambridgeshire County Council](#) or by calling 0345 045 1370



### Platinum Jubilee Bank Holiday

As you will probably be aware, there is an additional bank holiday this year to celebrate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee. The bank holidays are now Thursday 2nd and Friday 3rd June 2022, which fall within the May half term holiday and there is no longer a bank holiday on Monday 30th May.

Schools have therefore been advised to identify a day when schools can close during term time to ensure that staff who work term time only benefit from the additional 'day off'. The Federation has allocated Friday 27th May for this closure (the Friday before half term). Both schools will be closed on this day.