

**Newsletter
January 2019**

Dear Parents/Carers

Ofsted Report

I hope you've all had a chance to look at the letter we recently received from Ofsted following a monitoring visit that took place in December. If not please follow this link www.cuckoohallacademy.org.uk/Ofsted to the school website where you can access the report in full.

The report identifies that we have done a lot since September and there are signs of improvements in teaching and learning, specifically within maths. However, there is much more that needs to be done in a short space of time before the next Ofsted visit. With this in mind I have arranged a meeting on **Wednesday 30th January at 9am and again at 6pm** to discuss the report and share with you the actions we are taking to secure rapid and sustainable improvements for our children and school. We will provide a crèche at both meetings for your children.

Saturday School Extended

Cuckoo Hall has been running a Saturday maths club for Y6 pupils for two terms now and it's having a great impact on the children attending. Following on from its success we have extended Saturday School and have now created additional support for children in Y5 and Y6 to help improve their reading skills.

Saturday School has been established to support children in achieving their full potential and offering small group tuition to address misconception and close gaps in children's knowledge. We are very grateful to the Trust for fully funding this provision which means that the additional tuition is free to you and your children.

As your new Headteacher I have a duty to make sure that every child in our school is ready for secondary school and that they leave us with all the skills necessary to be successful in the future. As teaching and learning continues to improve there will be less need to offer interventions such as Saturday School. However, at the moment too many of our children are at risk of not being prepared for the move to secondary school therefore if your child has been selected to attend, I would urge you to take up this great offer.

Year 6 Pupils

I just want to say a huge thank you to our Y6 pupils who are doing everything they possibly can to rapidly improve their learning. Currently targeted pupils in Y6 are attending additional classes before and after school, on a weekly basis. Children are provided with breakfast or a snack in the afternoon whilst having additional reading and maths training.

The children are enjoying these sessions and have noticed the impact this is having on their learning. One pupil said "I'm lucky to be here. This is really helping me get better".



New Leadership Posts

As part of my vision for improving teaching and learning at our school I have created a new leadership structure in the school that ensures our good teachers have a responsibility for leading others within their year group. The new Year Group Leader position will take effect from September 2019 and is designed to make sure that all teachers in each year group are supported and challenged to be nothing less than good in all areas of their profession and to ensure all pupils make good progress.

Last week I carried out interviews in school and have appointed the following teachers to this new post: Beth Hiley, Melissa McEachen, Jane Andrew, Fartun Abdi and Emma Mehmet. Congratulations to all of these teachers who display great leadership qualities, a passion for improving teaching and learning and dedication to our school. I will be working closely with them this academic year to train them up in preparation to take on this role in September.

Goodbye and Good Luck

I'm sad to inform you that Sharon Adamson, our School Business Support Manager, will be leaving Cuckoo Hall at the end of this month. Sharon has worked with the Trust for five years and has been a key player in supporting ongoing improvements in the day to day running of our school and streamlining systems across our Trust that makes our schools run smoothly.

We will all miss her greatly but wish her continued success and happiness as she moves to a new school which is closer to her home.

Cuckoo Hall Success



Congratulations to the team of Y5 pupils who took part in an enterprise challenge this month with other local schools. The children attended a Dragon's Den style meeting where they presented their new product 'The Raisy Chocy' cookie which blew away the judges. The children's pitch, presentation and business plan saw them come top in all categories and were named overall winners.

The team came back with £100 cheque and a magnificent trophy for winning a Dragon's Den contest. A huge thank you to the staff who have given up their time to support the children

I was delighted to learn that the impressive Cuckoo Hall girls' football team finished in 2nd place in a very tough tournament against local schools. 4 wins, 1 draw and only a single loss was very impressive. We had lots to celebrate as our team scored the most amount of goals with Cuckoo Hall producing the top scorer in the whole tournament with 10 goals. Our goalkeeper, also kept the cleanest sheet.

