



NORTHERN STAR ACADEMIES TRUST
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20th January 2017

Dear Parents,

First a belated Happy New Year!

This is our first newsletter of 2017 and I am pleased to start with good news regarding the report from our recent school review.

The report clearly highlights the strengths in teaching and learning, particularly the quality of interaction between the children and adults and the behaviour for learning. Indeed behaviour in general really impressed our visitors as did the children's understanding of the school values and their relationships with each other. The report gives lots of examples of really good teaching and comments on the effectiveness of the school leadership team in bringing about improvements.

So, that is a great start to the new year and we shall continue to focus on the areas for development that we have identified for this year in order to do even better!

Next, a plea regarding children's use of the internet, social media etc. We have had a couple of examples of children using these inappropriately in the last week or two and I would ask that parents exercise proper vigilance in monitoring and controlling what the children are doing and accessing on-line. Please make sure that your children are behaving appropriately when involved in chat-room type activities and that the games they are accessing are age-appropriate. Ensuring that children use the internet properly is part of our safe-guarding duty but we cannot manage what they do at home. Unfortunately difficulties which arise there often spill over in to school and we are left having to sort it out! Thanks in anticipation of your co-operation.

The year is progressing quickly and so are the children and it was nice to see so many of you at Parents' meetings. Now that we have given you the children's assessment information for last term we hope to provide updates to you on a half-termly basis.

I am pleased to tell you that Miss Rimmer has started working in Reception whilst Mrs. Bailey is on maternity leave and that Mrs. Constable has settled in to Y4/5 supporting the class whilst Mr. Harrison undertakes his leadership tasks.

We will be recruiting a temporary part-time teacher for Miss Balls's class as Miss Pierce will be starting maternity leave at the beginning of March.

NORTHERN LIGHTS
Teaching School Alliance

Academy news is that the new Harrogate High School building is almost ready to move in to and it looks rather good. Although it might seem early days I would strongly encourage parents of pupils in Y4/5 to take the opportunity to look at the school when the chance is offered so that you can give it proper consideration when deciding on your preferences. It will be a superb learning environment and we are currently developing much stronger transition activities for our pupils alongside the high school and Hookstone Primary.

As always, remember to keep up to date with events happening at school by checking the calendar page on the school website.

That is all for now so please have an enjoyable weekend.

Kind Regards

Andrew Tomlinson