

2nd September 2022

Dear Families,

I hope that you are well and have had a lovely summer.

It has been great to see your children back in school this week and I hope that they have come home happy. We have been delighted to welcome a number of new starters to all four sites and, if this is your child's first week at Riverside School, I hope it has been a positive start to their Riverside journey. I also hope that you start to feel part of the wider school community, the "Riverside family" soon.

Pupils have settled really well into their new classes and have clearly enjoyed re-connecting with familiar faces. It has also been lovely to see how they have started to develop new friendships with less familiar classmates and staff and I am sure that these will get stronger and stronger in the weeks ahead. We know how important it is that your children feel safe and secure in their new environments and the focus in these first few days is to form the kind of relationships that will enable them to find their place and find their voice, in whichever form this may take. And however loud or quiet, we will always listen, and tailor our responses and approaches accordingly.

We now have 37 classes across our four sites:

24 at Riverside SPC 6 at Riverside Beckenham 5 at Riverside West Wickham 2 at Riverside Phoenix



As we continue to grow in size, please know that we will never lose sight of the things that really matter to you and your child. We talk a lot about "profound personalisation" at Riverside School, as every single child is wonderfully unique, with their own strengths, interests and needs. Our job is to ensure that we provide an environment and a curriculum which enables them to flourish and quite simply, Be All That They Can Be.

Since the start of the pandemic in March 2020, you will have received a weekly letter and I hope that you found these informative. For the majority of this time, information was primarily COVID-related, although in recent months, we have been able to focus on other matters. The plan for the coming year is to provide you with more detailed letters about what we have been up to and what our upcoming plans are and these will be sent on a half-termly basis. There will be no change to the regular communication you have with your child's class team about their progress

in school, and please let them know exactly what you want to hear about. This will vary from family to family and we want to ensure that you get the information you need to feel involved and included in all aspects of your child's school experience.

As always, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher if you have any questions and please also feel free to contact anyone on the Leadership Team if you require any further support.

We are all very excited about the term ahead and we hope that your child is too!

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'SSolomons', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Steve Solomons
Headteacher