

9th February 2024

Dear Riverside families,

I hope that you are all well.

Another half-term has flown by and I hope that your child has had a good one. There have been so many highlights and I hope that through your child's Personal Learning Plan, Home Learning Plan, Progress Report, Unique Profile and Happiness Passport, you feel that their curriculum is providing them with a range of experiences to help them flourish and succeed. As always, please don't hesitate to contact your child's class teacher should you wish to find out more about your child's progress at school. One such way is through the Annual EHCP Review process and for approximately half of the school, annual reviews will be taking place on Monday 19th February, meaning that school will be closed to all pupils on that day. The remaining reviews will take place on Monday 3rd June.

In other news, I am pleased to let you know that we are in the final stages of preparing our hydrotherapy pool for re-opening soon after half-term and, as shared previously, pupils who have hydrotherapy identified in their EHCPs, or use the pool to support their physical development will be prioritised at this stage. We will continue to access community pools for children whose swimming would be best suited in this way.

You will be aware that elections for parent governors took place last week and to give you a little more information about our Governing Board, their three core functions are:

- Ensuring that the school has a clear vision, ethos and strategic direction (i.e. what kind of school we are; what kind of school we want to be and how we get there);
- Holding the Headteacher to account for the educational performance of the school (i.e. making sure that all of our pupils, regardless of their level of complexity and disability, achieve in whatever way they can);
- Ensuring the school's resources are used in a sound, proper and efficient manner (i.e. we are doing the best we can with public funds).

Our Board consists of 11 Governors and other Associate Members, including Parents, Staff, Co-opted Governors from the community and a Local Authority Governor. Following last week's election, I would like to welcome Roger Fernandes and Saddaf Solomon to the Governing Board, we all look forward to working with you.

Whilst Christmas 2023 seems a while ago now, I am pleased to share some highlights from 'Twas the Night, our Immersive Experience for Primary-aged pupils at Riverside SPC and all pupils at Riverside Beckenham, Phoenix and West Wickham. We talk a lot about the power of connection,

community and collaboration and these themes are certainly captured in 'Twas the Night. Please enjoy the film [HERE](#).

In line with our Artsmark Platinum status, we are always looking to innovate and strive for excellence in the Expressive Arts, building on lessons we have learnt and always trying to push just that little bit further. With that in mind, I am delighted to say that our Secondary-aged pupils at Riverside SPC are busy preparing for their next show and to provide you with just a small taster, it is entitled:



Further details will follow soon but, for now, please save the following dates:

For Lower Secondary (*Genesis, Odyssey, Gemini, Gravity, Explorer, Cosmic, Pioneer and Voyager*) – 10:30am on Wednesday 20th March and for Upper Secondary (*Lunar, Discovery, Endeavour, Viking, Enterprise, Atlantis, Challenger and Apollo*) – 10:30am on Tuesday 26th March.

There are many other things to look forward to as we enter the second half of the year and we will never tire of finding ways to ensure your child has their voice heard, their sensory needs met, their learning accelerated and their strengths celebrated. Quite simply, we remain true to our commitment to give every pupil every opportunity to Be All That They Can Be.

Wishing you a healthy and happy half term and we look forward to seeing your children again on Tuesday 20th February.

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'Steve Solomons'.

Steve Solomons
Headteacher