

5th September 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are well and enjoyed the summer break albeit with a mixed bag of weather.

Staff have been busily preparing for the beginning of the Autumn Term and completed in-service training (INSET) on Tuesday to prepare for the children's return yesterday. Thank you for ensuring the children have returned to school looking so smart in their uniforms. It can be tricky to find shoes and all the right sized clothing – especially when we know they will grow out of it so quickly! If you have struggled to obtain any part of your child's uniform and need any help, please contact the School Office. We don't use any branded uniform; we try hard to keep prices low to make it affordable for all our families.

Harrowbarrow

A warm welcome to the staff, children and parents of Harrowbarrow Primary who officially joined the Trust on 1st September. We look forward to working with you.

Copper Valley

We are also pleased to announce that Delaware and Gunnislake have now officially moved to become Copper Valley Infant and Nursery Academy, and Copper Valley Junior Academy. The name change arose to keep both schools viable, working together with one head teacher. There is a visible change across the schools and lovely to see the children in their new uniform with their new logo designed by one of the pupils.

Pupil Results

Formal assessments have taken place in EYFS, Year 1 phonics check, Year 2, Y4 multiplication tables test and Year 6 SATs. We are extremely proud of the children and staff as headline figures show the Trust is significantly higher than the national averages in many areas. Our continued aim is to ensure all children are where they need to be in the next 12 months, ready to move to their next phase.

Premises

It was a busy summer for the premises team and contractors to work through maintenance schedules in the school buildings, upgrading facilities across school sites. These improvements will certainly make a difference in all our schools for both children and staff.

Home School Agreement/ Parental Consents

It is very important that we hold the most up-to-date information on our school systems, so please can you take some time to log into your Arbor Parent Portal/App over the next couple of days to check both your own and your child's data, amending where necessary ensuring you have details of at least two contacts on your file in case of an emergency. All changes you make will automatically update the school. Once logged in you will notice that the 2024/25 Home School Agreement has been uploaded. Consents are to be completed for every child to enable them to have photos taken, watch PG films, attend local sporting events and access approved learning platforms etc. Please be aware that without consent your child will unfortunately not be able to participate in certain activities.

If you do not currently use the Arbor Parent Portal/App and would like to, please contact the School Office who will arrange login details to be sent to you. However, if you don't have internet access available to you the School Office can arrange for a paper version to be sent out for your completion. Please note, where we do not receive a response the system entry will automatically show as a 'NO CONSENT' until confirmed consent is received. If you have any queries regarding the Home School Agreement/Parental Consents, please don't hesitate to contact the School Office.

Thank you for your continued support as the Autumn Term begins, we have enjoyed welcoming the children back to school this week. We look forward to a successful first half term.

With all good wishes,
Adrian Massey and everyone in Bridge Schools