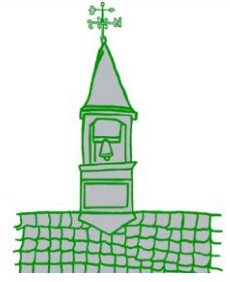




Fakenham Primary Federation



"Together we can"

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Executive Headteacher: Adam Mason

Be the best YOU can be

Friday 14th March 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

Five years ago, both of our schools were beginning 'Lockdown 1'. It has been sobering this week to reflect on what both society and schools were expected to do in the pandemic. The children now in Y6 were then in Y1 and our children in Reception were either a few months old or possibly born during the Lockdown. The impact has a long tail; face to face learning was lost, social interactions broken, initial socialisations in parent and baby/toddler groups missed. Individually, it is impossible to quantify the personal impact on each child, as we do not know how they would have developed had the pandemic not happened. It is however an experience that we all have in common, and one that cannot just be removed from us- it was one of the most challenging things I have ever faced.

At the schools, we are continuing to support the children where social and academic development may have been affected – this is despite any 'catch-up' funding to schools ending last year. We are trying to do the best we can with what we have got. Unfortunately, I fear the impacts of the CoVid pandemic will be felt in schools, and society, for many years to come. The staff worked hard to offer the best possible during the pandemic, and the best possible in recovery since - as I reflect on the anniversary of the pandemic, I want to say how proud I am of all of them.

One thing which we do need to recognise is attendance in both of our schools. It is great to see that our attendance is above the national average by at least 1%. This is significant and important for your children. If they are in school then they are learning the curriculum and making progress. They are also building social skills and resilience. Thank you for your support in ensuring your children are in school when they are well enough to be.

Next week is the last week of the Spring term – already! It does not seem five minutes since we were returning from the Christmas break. Both schools close at normal times on Friday 4th April and Afterschool Club is open if your child is booked in. We return for the Summer term, at normal times, on Wednesday 23rd April.

Have a good weekend,

Adam Mason