

10<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

Wow, what a brilliant first week back to school we have had! I have heard lots of stories of summer trips to the seaside, 'glamping' around the UK, and exciting days out in the local area and beyond.

I hope your child(ren) has shared details of our updated school environment and classrooms. We are all thrilled with our school and again cannot wait to show it to you all. To quote Mrs Knight, "Bowling Green has never looked better!" We are planning and preparing ways to get all families into school as soon as possible, and for children to showcase their learning to their families.

This week, children have learned a lot about our KITE Values and how to demonstrate them in school and beyond. They have amazed us all with their considered, articulate responses about each value, and I know will keep making us all proud this year.



Many responses from my survey last term signposted that parents and carers were sometimes not aware of the children's areas of learning each term in some areas. This term, you have received via SeeSaw a Curriculum Map, outlining learning for each subject. We hope that this will help home-school communication, and allow you all to feel engaged in children's learning process. These will all soon be on our website, too.

Regarding homework for children, the survey responses were very mixed. We will be sending further communication about homework soon. We have an expectation that all children practice these core skills at home:

- Read aloud to an adult at home at least three times per week
- Practice spellings (and the associated 'spelling rules') each week
- Practice Times Tables Rockstars at least three times per week ('number facts' for Year 1 and Year 2 initially).

For families who want more homework, you will see on the Curriculum Maps that teachers have provided optional project-based work linked to areas of learning in class. These projects can be as large-scale as you wish and can be shared either on SeeSaw or during the last week of each half term (for lots of house points, I'm sure!).

It really has been wonderful to be back and to see all our children and families this week. Our new staff members - Mrs Mellor and Mr Andrews as Assistant Principals, Mrs Hollingsworth, Mrs Clegg and Mrs Davison – have all joined our team at a great point, and all bring lots of expertise to Bowling Green Academy. We remain very excited for the year ahead.

Yours sincerely,



Jamie Stuttard, Principal