

8<sup>th</sup> April 2024

## Summer term updates

Dear Parents, Carers and Children,

I hope that you had a lovely Easter break – full of rest, family time and I would imagine a good supply of chocolate! At the start of each new term, I like to update you on school development. As many schools do, we have three improvement priorities this year.

**1. To provide children with rich, character-enhancing experiences, and to prepare them for future learning and adulthood**

We are continuing to provide those exciting moments across the curriculum that we know our children really enjoy, as well as several further initiatives to support our children as young leaders, such as our recent Princess Diana Anti-Bullying Ambassador training, and First Aid and CPR. We have some more training planned for children this half term. Our Challenging Stereotypes Week across school before Easter was also carefully planned to support our children's future steps into later life, the workplace and beyond.

**2. To focus on task design in Art, DT and Music**

All schools in Great Heights Academy Trust have termly visits from the School Improvement Team and we really wanted to showcase our curriculum for them during February's visit. One quote from an external review noted, '*Children were able to talk confidently, expressing a clear passion and love for art. This felt well-embedded, which is impressive in such a short space of time... It is with a high level of confidence that the art curriculum appears to be impacting positively on pupil outcomes*'. As a teaching team, we have also enjoyed two evening CPD sessions on developing our music curriculum from leaders at Calderdale Music.

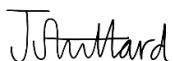
**3. To raise the independence and tenacity of all children, particularly those with SEND**

We are continuing to reflect on our recent training and seeing what this looks like across school, working with our fantastic Teaching Assistants and Learning Support Assistants to share great practice across school. We are still really proud of our curriculum at Bowling Green and our support for children with additional needs - in terms of building independence, thinking as learners and in achieving desired outcomes – is showcased well across school.

We are looking forward to continually focus on these targets further this term as we continue our strive to get even better.

As you are aware, I am now based over two schools within the Trust – Bowling Green and Marsden Junior School. While this is somewhat of a change for me, we are confident that children and families at Bowling Green will not notice any significant changes. I am thrilled that Mrs Mellor and Mr Andrews will be Acting Deputies for the term. They, as well as all our teachers and staff, continue to have our community's best interests at heart and I am confident that our school will continue to go from strength to strength.

With best wishes for a wonderful summer term,



Mr Jamie Stuttard