

8th September, 2023.

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Parent Communication Letter will begin again next week, after the children have had time to settle into their new classes and have reestablished the Academy routines.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for sending the children in so promptly. They all look very smart, and their behaviour has been extremely positive. When I walk round the academy, I am always very proud to be the Principal for your children.

We have welcomed back Mrs Longman this term and I know she is really looking forward to working with her new class in Year 5, as well as continuing to support myself, Mr Thorpe, and Miss Smith on the Senior Leadership Team.

We are always looking for ways to improve further and have been putting our plans in place for the new academic year. Some of the things we will be focusing on include:

- Oracy – research shows that children who are able to speak confidently and knowledgeably are most likely to succeed as adults.
- Knowing more / remembering more – we are looking at a range of strategies for helping children to retain information long term.
- Immersive Classroom development – as I have previously said, we are excited that we are going to be having a brand-new classroom that allows the children to experience learning that 'comes alive'. This means that the children will be able to experience a virtual reality that allows them to see what it would have been like in a Viking village, explore life under the ocean and so much more. This will be used to inspire writing and other learning as well as being a very useful tool for pupils with additional needs. We will be the only school in the local area to have this technology in place, so I am very grateful to the Trust for enabling this to happen.

As we start the new term, I would like to remind you about the importance of regular attendance within the academy. A letter has been sent out with further details.

The children at Herman are overwhelmingly dressed smartly and appropriately for their day in school. In order to reward this, we will be having a weekly 'Best Dressed Class,' which will reward the class who have had the smartest appearance, correct uniform and PE Kit. They will receive 5 minutes extra playtime on Mondays, and they will get to sit on the benches during Monday Assembly (which they are all very excited about)!

Star of the Week will continue as always and The Principal's Award will be reestablished when the children have had time to settle in and are showing an excellent attitude to all areas of school life – working hard, being polite and kind, attending regularly, being smart, having the correct equipment and all the other things that go into being a positive role model at Herman.

Our Reception children have settled in very well this week and I am looking forward to welcoming our Nursery children back next week. For some of them, this will be a new experience, as they will be attending for a full day.

I am looking forward to the new term and will continue to update you on Herman news each week.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'K. Redhead', with a horizontal line extending to the right.

Mrs K. Redhead
Principal