12th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Small classes

The School recently reached a new agreement with the LA for increased funding of EHCP pupils in Rainbows. This has had multiple benefits for us:

* It has secured the continuation of the Rainbows class;
* It has provided extra resources for Rainbows, improving the support and education we can offer them;
* It has freed up other school income that previously was required by Rainbows;
* It has enabled us to preserve two forms in each of Reception, Y1 and Y2 for the coming school year.

This last item means we expect to have 17 pupils in each Reception class, 19 in each Y1 class and 24 in each Y2 class. These are much lower numbers than has traditionally been possible (the legal maximum is 30 pupils per teacher in all of these year groups and most schools work close to this maximum) and we are delighted.

**Engagement with Parents**

Engagement with parents is a high priority at Spring Meadow, and something that parent governors have a focus on as part of their role supporting the school.

During the last couple of terms at Spring Meadow we have been delighted to welcome parents/carers into school for a range of different activities and events. The Spring Activity morning in Reception Class and Nursery Easter Activity morning were well attended and feedback from parents suggested that they really enjoying spending time in the school with their children and learning about how they are working and spending their time whilst in school.

Most recently parents/carers also were invited to join their children and teachers in school for a Royal Garden Tea Party -- we heard that the range of hats on display was impressive and the children were very excited to be preparing sandwiches and cakes for the tea party.

In other school news, we have been successful in filling some of the vacancies that we've had this term -- including the School Administrator and Site Manager, both of whom have started working within the school recently and are getting up to speed with Spring Meadow.

**School Management**

We have had a succession of staff illnesses and vacancies over the past few months, including one teacher and the school caretaker. Governors would like to offer special thanks to all the members of the senior leadership team (head, assistant heads, school business manager) who have covered for the vacant roles in an outstanding way. They are not paid extra for this and the savings from the vacancies have boosted the school budget and are part of the reason we can afford the small classes mentioned above.

**Governors**

I was appointed a governor and chair of governors last February after the resignation of Dawn Page and on the basis that I would fill the role for six months (I live in Cambridge, and it is neither good for the school nor attractive to me to travel so far). We are delighted that David Barker, who is already a governor and also chair of governors at Littleport Primary, has agreed to take on this role from September.

We will have at least one co-opted governor vacancy and one parent governor vacancy open in September. If you or anyone you know would be interested in being a governor here, please contact Mrs Fielding, any of the present parent governors or me via the school office.

Yours sincerely

R. SALMON

Roger Salmon
Chair of Governors