



Newsletter July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope you and your families are all well. We are now nearing the end of a very strange term and are looking towards the end of this year and forward to next academic year. We have lots of 'Goodbyes' to say and some 'Hellos'.

Year 6

It has been lovely to see many of the Year 6 pupils in school over the last three weeks. We are planning a virtual goodbye video so all the Year 6 pupils will be able to do their usual end of year presentation albeit in a different way. This will be able to be shared with parents and other children in school. We would like to wish all our Year 6 pupils and their families all the best for the future and are sure they will enjoy their new secondary schools.

Transition

Children remaining at Ridgeway have all been allocated their classes for next year. Teachers consider many factors when placing a child in their new class including who they work well with, age, gender mix and friendships. We are aware that we have not been able to do our usual transition activities during the last week when children go into their new classes. Teachers will therefore take this into account at the start of the new year when children are in their new classes and will do some transition activities then.

School Uniform

Children will be expected to wear school uniform again from the start of the new term in August. Please see the website for uniform details. Children will not be able to wear jewellery or hair bands with embellishments that they take on and off. Hair dye and nail varnish is also not allowed as part of our uniform policy.

Goodbyes

At the end of this term we are saying goodbye to Mrs Louise Johnson (TA and ELSA), Mrs Addison (EYFS phase leader) and Miss Fellows (EYFS teacher). We are very sad to see them go but wish them well in the next stages of their careers.

Hellos

We are very pleased to welcome Miss Lorna Wells as EYFS teacher in August. Miss Wells is an experienced EYFS teacher and we are all looking forward to welcoming her as part of the team. There will be one EYFS class in August. This is due to fewer applicants for Reception spaces this year. If you know of parents looking for school spaces for their child for the next academic year or for EYFS in 2021, do tell them to consider Ridgeway and have a look at our video on our website which gives a virtual tour of the school. Hopefully it won't be too long before we can welcome visitors into school again.

FORA

We would like to take the opportunity to thank FORA for their support again this year in very unusual circumstances that has affected their ability to organize fundraising events. We would also like to thank the chairs Penny Fannon and Jo Regan-Iles who are stepping down from their

positions this year for all their hard work and dedication in coordinating FORA over the past few years. It has been greatly appreciated. Please see below a message from FORA

FORA would like to say 'Thank You' for the support shown in the first half of the year. Although it's disappointing that lots of our usual fundraising events couldn't take place, we do have plans for some of the funds already raised and we hope to bring news about these in the new academic year. The Co-op store on Leicester Road is still an active source of funds for Ridgeway as we are a nominated 'local cause' in this store until October, so by shopping there you can add a few pennies to our pot. If you are a Co-op member, you just need to nominate FORA as your chosen cause via the Co-op website and they do the rest.

Many of the current FORA committee are planning to stand down after the summer, so there are opportunities for lots of new faces to get involved and bring some fresh ideas to the committee. As the outgoing chairs of the committee, we have thoroughly enjoyed the last few years of running events, raising funds and being able to support the school. If you're considering offering your time/skills and have any questions please feel free to contact us via the FORA Facebook page.

We'd like to thank Mrs Dewes and Mrs Addison in particular for their input over recent years, and all other school staff and parents who lend their time to help with events. It has been a pleasure coordinating with everyone involved.

Wishing you all a healthy and happy summer break.

Penny and Jo (FORA Co-Chairs)

Mrs Sarah Bishop

Mrs Sarah Bishop will be taking over from Mrs Dewes in August. She has attended many virtual meetings with Mrs Dewes, Mr Turner and Learn-at over the last few weeks in preparation for a smooth transition and handover and is looking forward to meeting everyone in person in the new academic year.

Goodbye from Mrs Dewes

I'd just like to take the opportunity to thank everyone for their support over the last three years and to say what a privilege it has been to be part of the Ridgeway team, watching your children grow and develop and working alongside such dedicated staff. I wish everyone all the very best for and will look forward to seeing how Ridgeway continues to thrive in the future.

Dates for Next term

The last day of this term is Friday 10th July. At the time of writing we are still waiting for government guidance as to arrangements for next term. We will forward these arrangements to you as soon as we have them via Learn-at. The new term will begin on Wednesday 26th August. School will not be open over the summer holidays but holiday club providers are now able to operate so will be advertising their activities.