

Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers

### Welcome!

I hope you all had a great summer and that you were able to spend time with your children, families and friends over the holiday period. We begin the new academic year by welcoming a number of new children and their families to Halebank C of E Primary School including our wonderful Reception starters. I hope everyone has managed to settle into what looks like another busy and eventful year for the school.

### A Quick Introduction

I feel privileged to be taking on the role of headteacher at Halebank and I am excited to be working with you, your children, the governors and the amazing staff team in the coming years. Prior to securing the position here, I worked in a number of schools in Cheshire West and Chester, Manchester and Bolton over a period of more than twenty years. This is my second headship; I led Tilston Parochial CE Primary School for almost seven years and, most recently, I provided interim leadership support to Woodlands Primary School in Ellesmere Port.

I have been overwhelmed by the warm welcome I have received from the school community! The children have been so friendly and helpful, and very well behaved; I have thoroughly enjoyed getting around the school to see them fully immersed in their learning and settling back into their routines. It has also been great to have caught up with some of you already for a quick chat before and after school. I will aim to be out and about as much as possible as the children arrive in the mornings, so please feel free to come and introduce yourselves. This is a good opportunity to pass on any current information about your child; if you'd prefer to meet for a more formal chat, do let me know.

### Halebank Heroes

Class teachers and teaching assistants have already reviewed the school's rules and expectations for behaviour with the classes and we have talked this through as a whole school in collective worship. The staff team spent time during the INSET day on Wednesday to review the school's positive behaviour policy; we will share this with you soon. In the meantime, here are the school's rules which we expect all of our 'Halebank Heroes' to follow:



- 1) We are **kind**.
- 2) We are **respectful**.
- 3) We are **safe**.
- 4) We are **ready**.



I know the staff will be quick to celebrate good behaviour and hard work; we have a number of rewards in school to support this, one of which is passing on the good news about your child to you. Similarly, if the staff have concerns about behaviour, they will let you know, so that we can work together to provide the appropriate support.

### **Weekly Newsletter and Contact Details**

I plan to send out a weekly newsletter which you should receive every Friday; I hope that this will keep you all up to date with everything that is going on in school. Each newsletter will also be published on the school website should you miss your paper copy. If you could ensure that your contact details are up to date, we can also look into emailing the newsletter to you directly. The staff are currently working on the diary dates for the academic year and you will receive a copy of these in due course.

### **Whole School and Community Worship: Tuesday, 10<sup>th</sup> September**

Parents, carers and members of the community are all very welcome to join us for the first Community Worship of this academic year on **Tuesday** morning at **9.00 am**. These sessions will continue throughout the term, so do join us if you can.

### **School Uniform**

It's lovely to see the children returning to school looking so smart in their school uniforms and school shoes. It would be brilliant to see this continuing for the whole school year. Please make sure that all your child's clothes are clearly labelled as it can be very time-consuming finding the owners of lost items. Do encourage your child to be responsible for his/her own clothes and belongings, while also making sure that PE kits are brought home regularly for a wash! Thank you.

### **Thank You**

I would like to thank you all once again for welcoming me into your school community. I am confident that as the school enters a new phase in its journey, there will be much to celebrate. Your support as parents and carers is crucial in ensuring that we work together to strengthen our home-school partnership; this, in turn, will lead to the best possible outcomes for the children of Halebank.

I very much look forward to getting to know you all and to working with you. Have a great weekend!

Yours sincerely



Mr R Harley