Friday 9th September 2022

Dear All,

Welcome back to the new school year. I hope you all had an enjoyable summer and are looking forward to the new academic year. This term has started well and I would especially like to welcome our new children and staff and wish them an amazing time at Perrymount.

I hope the changes to our timetable have helped the wait at the end of the day. Please remember that I and my staff run an open door policy and that if there is anything that we can do to support you, please just ask.

**Centre of Excellence**

In July 2022 we were reassessed for our Centre of Excellence Inclusion Award and it was renewed. Below are two extracts from the report that were high praise indeed.

*Pupil’s Come First*

*“We aim to make sure we remove barriers to allow all children to participate in the full life of the school community holistically and academically.”*

*The Headteacher, Deputy Head and the SENCo/ IQM Lead spoke about the context and the future strategic developments of the school. The school works very hard to develop the positive attitudes and self-confidence of its pupils. Year 6 pupils can choose to be a buddy, they wear a red polo shirt, they play and support pupils during break/lunch times and help around the school. This helps pupils to develop their self-confidence and it also adds to the family feel of the school where all pupils happily work and play together. Pupils are positive, motivated, self-confident, and able to enter into discussion with ease. At this school, it is always clear that pupils are at the centre of everything it does and are genuinely listened to.*

### ***Staff Are Positive***

*Teaching and support staff work very well together to do their very best for all pupils. They are valued for their skills and expertise with support staff playing a vital role in the school, leading interventions, supporting in class, and providing crucial support for pupils with a range of SEND. They share the common, inclusive vision and they feel they have excellent support and resources to enable them to do their work. Staff spend a lot of time in planning thoroughly to meet their pupils’ individual needs and in the detailed marking of pupils’ work. Staff are positive and energetic and are fully committed to the pupils and to the school. They speak very highly of inclusive practices within Perrymount Primary School. Staff expressed how they,*

*“Make sure that all children are exposed to the same activities and have the same chances as everyone,” “By facilitating equal chances for the children to be able to access the curriculum based on their abilities and needs.”*

*Staff feel valued at Perrymount and find the Headteacher very supportive,*

*“Her door is always open, you can go to her at any time about anything.”*

We are of course delighted that all of our hard work, Governors, staff, children and yours has been recognised. By working together we continue to make Perrymount the amazing school that it is and of course, it is wonderful to have our efforts recognised again by this award.

**Can we help?**

We are all well aware of the cost of living crises, energy bills rocketing and the rising cost of the weekly shop. If you are suffering please do not do so in silence. We may not be able to do much, but if there is any help we can provide such as food bank vouchers, school uniform, or sign posting to other agencies or even just someone to talk to. Please do not hesitate to contact us.

**Can you help us?**

If any of you do have an hour each week that you could commit to school to help hear children read we would be very grateful. Please contact the school office and leave a message for Mrs Wilson if you do have some time you can spare.

**Is your child entitled to Free School Meals?**

If you are receiving certain benefits you may be entitled to Free School Meals (FSM). This not only entitles your child to a free dinner during term time but, over the past two years, it has also provided families with financial support to feed their children over the holidays. FSM also effects our school budget. The more children in receipt of FSM entitles the school to additional funds that we can focus upon the children. So if you feel you may be entitled please apply and if you are not sure how to apply, please contact Ms Hamilton in the office - 0208 699 4522.

Next week I will send home a timetable of this terms events so you can book them into your diary.

Here’s to a great school year.

Best wishes

Christine Keen

Headteacher