

Newsletter

July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we are near to the end of the year, I am writing with a few brief updates for all our parents and carers.

It's been a very positive year for our schools and the Trust, and with the many Trust events, positive OFSTED reports and the performance of our schools, Oak Trees is now becoming the Trust of choice in the area for many schools wishing to become part of a strong and local Academy Trust.

This is in no doubt thanks to our whole-Trust community and all they do for us, including our staff, governors, trustees, parents and carers and of course, our wonderful children! There are lots of changes afoot in the Trust in the next 12 months with many more children and families coming under our umbrella, but we are confident that we are strongly established in the local area and that we are in an excellent position to move forward to support Wirral children in the coming years.

End of Year Tests and OFSTED

We are very pleased about our Trust results this year, and we are thrilled at the progress made in the past 12 months across all our schools which is continuing to improve our outcomes. The staff and children have worked incredibly hard, and our schools continue to perform strongly, despite the long-term impact of Covid-19. The children and staff have done us proud, and our results are again above the local and national averages in all areas.

We are also thrilled that both Brackenwood Juniors and Church Drive Primary have both undertaken successful and very positive OFSTED inspections in the summer term. Both reports reflect the fantastic work each school does for their families, and we would like to thank the staff for their

amazing and continued efforts to make our schools as good as they can be. Well done to both schools. We are very proud of you all!

Growth and Trust Appointments

We are very excited about the growth of the Trust in the next 12 months, which will mean a significant change in the number of staff, pupils and families under the Oak Trees umbrella:

1. Thingwall Primary School will join the Trust on October 1st.
2. Heswall Primary School will hopefully join the Trust on December 1st.
3. Irby and Black Horse Juniors we hope will join us in March 2024.
4. Hilbre High School will join us early in 2024, subject to final legal paperwork.
5. The Department for Education have agreed that Ridgeway High School should join us early next year alongside Hilbre High, which will mean we have two secondary schools in the Trust, a big change for us.

We are also delighted to inform you that we have been granted Sponsorship Status by the Department for Education, which means that if a local school needs support, Oak Trees is now able to support them to improve. This is testament to our strong performance and reputation in the area, and we are delighted that we have been asked to become a sponsor for both secondary and primary schools.

To support the Trust and ensure that we can deliver for our schools, we have also made a number of staffing appointments, including:

1. Lisa Finnegan, currently Deputy CEO of a Trust in Burnley, will join Oak Trees in September as Deputy CEO.
2. Stacey Evans, currently Special Educational Needs Co-Ordinator

at Egremont Primary, will become Trust SEND Lead from September.

3. Claire Arnold, currently Executive Headteacher at Brackenwood Juniors and Poulton Lancelyn, will become School Improvement Lead for Oak Trees in September.

4. Mel Eastwood, current Headteacher of Egremont Primary School, will be seconded for 2 days a week to the Trust from September to add capacity for the Trust and focus on wellbeing.

5. Mark Bellamy, current Headteacher of Hilbre High School, will be seconded to the Trust for 2 days per week from September to enable us to on-board and support the new secondary schools.

We are very excited that this extra capacity will enable us to deliver for our schools and will ensure that, despite the increased growth of the Trust, we continue to perform at a high level for all our families.

Final Message

Thank you again to everyone connected with the Trust, and from the Trust Board, for your amazing support for our children and schools in the past 12 months. For those families leaving us, thank you for choosing us and good luck in the future. And for those returning next year, we hope that you have a fantastic summer, and look forward to seeing you in September.

Take care,



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