



The Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale Federation

17 December 2020

Dear Parents and Carers at Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale,

MESSAGE FROM THE GOVERNING BODY OF GGLV FEDERATION

On behalf of the Governing Body, I am writing to send you and your family our best wishes for the holiday period and a Happy New Year. This has been a very difficult year for families with school-aged children. Adapting to home learning, worries about virus transmission, your children's well-being and, making sure everyone has enough food, are just some of the pressures I know many people are experiencing. GGLV Federation Governors have been clear that our pupils' well-being is paramount, and I hope you and your children have received the support you need from us.

Keeping our school community safe is a collective effort. I have been pleased that Grinling Gibbons and Lucas Vale have had a relatively low incidence of Covid compared to other schools. As parents, you have played your part in helping contain the virus and I want to thank you for helping keep others safe by following the guidance and supporting your children to do so too. This has meant we have been able to keep the schools open. We have had high attendance by both staff and pupils, which has meant we could focus on getting the children back on track with their learning. Children settled very quickly into the new routines and the Heads of School, Mr Gordon and Miss Cobblah, have told the Governors that children are calm, happy, well-behaved and keen to learn. We can't achieve this without you. Your support has contributed enormously to getting the school community through these difficult times and I am very grateful to you.

I also want to let you know about some changes. The Governing Body has appointed a new full-time Executive Head Teacher, Mr Mickey Kelly, who will be leading the Federation from 1 January. He is a very experienced teacher and school leader with an impressive track record in how to make the schools he leads outstanding places to learn. He lives locally and began his career in Deptford, so knows our community well. He is passionate about giving all children a great education and making learning fun and exciting.

Joining him will be a new leader in maths who will work across the Federation. Mr Rory Dearlove is also very experienced and determined to ensure your child, whether they're struggling with maths or can't get enough of it, will have the opportunities they need to develop their learning and enjoy maths.

You can expect more changes to the Federation next year aimed at making our schools the absolute best they can be. Mr Kelly will work closely with Mr Gordon and Miss Cobblah and they will keep you informed of the things we're doing to give your children the best start in life and encourage a life-long love of learning.

I know that if we continue to work together, we can get through this and we all look forward to seeing you and your children in the New Year.

With best wishes
Laura Cunningham

Laura Cunningham
Chair of Governors
GGLV Federation