

Bedmond Academy

Meadow Way, Bedmond, Hertfordshire WD5 0RD

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Email: admin@bedmondacademy.org.uk

CEO: Mrs V Parsey

Principal: Miss J Harris

Assistant Principal: Miss E Ayrton



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had such a wonderful term at Bedmond Academy. I just wanted to write to you to inform you of the progress we have made in regards to some of our focus areas. I know you would have seen and heard about most of these during parents evening, tea parties and from your children.

Primary Writing Project

As you are aware from the Tea Parties, we have recently introduced a new writing programme across the school. The children are so positive about writing and are able to talk about all the different imaginative story ideas they are developing. As you would have seen from the children's books, they are now writing at length more frequently and they enjoy doing this. We have been teaching them using short writing tasks, which then become part of the longer piece. The children enjoy recalling the story actions they are learning and their language around writing is developing rapidly.

Well-being

At the heart of Bedmond Academy lies the children's wellbeing. It is the core of our curriculum and something we have been focusing and working on this term. Some of the strategies we have put in place are the: daily mile, daily yoga, weekly forest school sessions and daily meditation. I have the joy of introducing the yoga pose each week in our Assembly and I always have most of the school volunteering to model the pose. Yoga has been something that really has made a difference to our timetable. Our staff really believe that if we can get the wellbeing of the children right we can get the best out of them academically and this really is an area we have made great progress with. Forest school is the highlight of most of our children's week. They have built such great team skills and independence skills in these sessions. No matter what the weather every child is excited to go. Going forward we would like to develop our daily mile by working towards having a track on our field as we are always trying to encourage children to become more active and be outside as much as possible in our beautiful grounds.

Learning attitudes

This has been a concern for parents in the past and it is an area in school that has progressed greatly since last year. Visitors regular comment on how calm and purposeful our learning environment is. Our children are intrinsically developing their emotional self. They are extremely polite and helpful and want to improve and please in school. They all enjoy visiting each other's class to help other pupils. In addition to this they enjoy gaining stickers for the learning values we have put in place and wear these with pride. Our staff has spent a long time researching and delving into different strategies to use with all individuals and we have spent lots of time training all members of staff on our policy. I will be contacting parents with an overview of the behaviour policy in the spring term.

School values

We have spent the whole term learning and putting into place our new school values. Thank you for all your comments last year when I was writing these. These values really underpin Bedmond Academy and the pupils we are developing. They highlight the learning attitudes we expect from children as well as enabling them to learn more about themselves and others. They link strongly to our PSHE curriculum and how we should treat ourselves



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and others in and outside of school. As a school we feel very excited about these values and the positivity they bring to our school environment.

School uniform

It has been lovely to see the children in the new Bedmond Academy uniform. They look very smart and wear them with such pride. Following feedback from parents on the quality of school uniform we have taken up some concerns with our supplier, MAPAC, and have asked them to change the PE T-Shirt, once we have used the remaining stock the PE T-Shirts will now have a printed logo instead of embroidered. We are also looking into a different style of jumper. If you do have any issues with the uniform you have purchased please contact MAPAC directly on 01923 219035.

Communication

Whilst we have made huge progress with communication. We do acknowledge that on occasions these communications have not given parents sufficient notice and we will look to improve this. If you have any ideas on how you would like to improve this, then please contact us via the admin@bedmondacademy.org.uk We are now in a position where we have permanent teachers in each class, we will only email to advise parents in the case of a long term absence. Where the teacher has a planned day away from the class, they will let the children know in the classroom the day before.

Reading

We are trying to build a school that loves reading and over the year this will be one of our focus areas that we will try different strategies in. We encourage children to read at home every day and we ask parents to sign their reading records to acknowledge this has been done. We appreciate children read at a different pace and want them to look forward to changing their books; from Year 2 up the children are expected to inform their class teacher when they need to change their books. This will not be prompted by the teacher as we are trying to build independent learners. If you have any concerns regarding your child's reading please contact your class teacher.

School environment

We are currently looking into a new contract for cleaning and have asked for support from the trust to assist us in this. We are planning to have a deep clean throughout the whole of the school. The governors are looking at the school environment and putting together a plan going forward.

I hope this letter has given you an insight into all the progress and developments that have taken place this term. Bedmond is such a positive school to be a part of and it is rapidly improving. If you have any issues at all please raise it with your class teacher at the end of the day in the first instance. If you do not feel your issue has been resolved sufficiently then please contact the school office to arrange a meeting or phone call with Miss Harris or a member of SLT. We are planning to hold a meeting with all parents in the new year to discuss the progress the school has made and our development points going forward. We will contact you nearer the time with more information.

Thank you for all your continued support. It has been wonderful to see so many of you visiting the school this term and we hope this continues throughout the year.

Kind regards,



Miss Harris and the Local Advisory Body



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