

Yox Valley Partnership



Primary School



Academy Head - Gail Jerman

head@yoxvalley.org

Website: www.yoxvalleypartnership.org

16th July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Another year has flown by and we have now reached the end of this academic year. Whilst we have had another turbulent year due to the disruption of Covid, we have still had lots to celebrate and be proud of. Over the past couple of weeks I have seen so many examples of where our children have made us proud. We have seen excellent sports people racing down the tracks, jumping the furthest or throwing the quoit into the sunset at our Sports Days. Not everyone had a medal, but everyone gave their all and there were many examples of sportsmanship - we even had one race where a Y5 pupil stopped during his race twice to check on his friend.

We know that not everyone shines at sport but there have been other opportunities for people to shine in different ways. We have seen some amazing acting and some fantastic singing as all the schools put together an end of year play; hopefully you all now have seen those on Google Classroom.

It is important that we balance looking back with looking to the future. As we start a new year in September we have lots to look forward to, some new things and some things we will reinstate. We will be welcoming lots of new friends, not just in Reception and Nursery but throughout the school, and we also have several new members of staff joining our team. It is lovely to see our schools growing in numbers and popularity and highlights the journey we have all come.

We are looking forward to also welcoming parents back for Celebration assemblies, to volunteers coming in to help us, and for you to join us for other events as we move even closer to a more normal picture. The classrooms will be looking less formal as tables return to groups rather than rows and everyone will be joining together for lunch in the halls.

Never giving less than our best

Yoxford and Peasehall Primary School, High Street, Yoxford, Suffolk. IP17 3EU

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Regarding uniform and PE kits, we will be returning to pupils changing in school for PE and Scout sessions so we will be expecting everyone to come into school in their uniform every day, then change when asked to, by their teachers. The uniform and the PE kits have got a bit relaxed lately, but we would like to see everyone looking smart in proper school uniform and in our school PE kits rather than football kits. A smart appearance both in dress and hairstyle will convey a positive message about how a person values themselves and how they may fit into any learning or working community. The full uniform can be found on the school website if you are unsure.

As you are already aware, we have developed our Extended School provision, and will be offering a wider package of enriched activities and those programmes will be out at the very start of the new school year. I hope there is something for everyone but if not, we will be changing it half termly so that we can cater for the interests of each child.

The children have missed out on so much over the past 18 months including educational visits, so we are looking forward to getting some dates and venues in the diary and also to look at planning some residential visits for pupils next year. I am in discussion with the PE team for a sporting event for the autumn - it is early days in the planning but we are looking at a Sports fest where pupils will have taster sessions on different sporting activities. Once we have further details we will let you know so that you can join us.

The scouting programme we have at Yoxford and Peasehall will be extended to Middleton from September. It will be led by Cameron Hopkinson and Hannah Sutton and will run alongside the current plans. We hope we can have some combined sessions too, and we hope be more involved with 1st Fressingfield Scouts which we belong too.

And finally the swimming pool - it has been a long time coming and we seem to have hit every snag possible. The builders will be on site Monday 19th July to iron out the last few technical issues we have faced and we are really hopeful that it will be ready for sure when we return.

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So lots to do, lots to look forward to but before all of that I think we all need a well-earned break. I would like to say some Thank you's before we close for the summer. Firstly I want to thank all my staff. They have worked incredibly hard this year, embraced new methods of teaching during the lockdown, gone above and beyond for our pupils and over the past few weeks the Office Mangers have been getting up to speed with a whole new system which has really tested their patience. Every one of them is really deserving of their summer holiday this year more than ever - THANK YOU Team Yox Valley.

I also want to thank our PTAs. It has not been easy trying to fund raise this year, but you have still been there to support us in different ways, from purchasing hoodies for our Y6 to buying resources for our schools. I am looking forward to working with you next year to help replenish your funds.

Today we are saying good bye to another group of wonderful year 6 pupils. And I want to thank them for giving us so many memories, and for just being wonderful. We are going to really miss them, but we know that they will do us proud, and do themselves proud. I would like to wish them all the very best of luck in their new High Schools.

Finally I want to thank you, our parents and carers, for all support and patience this year. Thank you for your understanding over the end of term events and for respecting our requests despite being disappointed. And for all your kind messages during lockdown, the odd box of chocolates that appeared at the door, your well wishes, the little messages we received - they were all really appreciated by the staff during some challenging times so THANK YOU.

All that is left is to wish you a happy summer full of fun, family and friendship and hopefully a bit of sun. We will see you all back at school on **Friday 3rd September**.

Best wishes

Miss G Jerman
Academy Head

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