



Orchard Academy Trust

Hildenborough Crescent, Maidstone,
Kent, ME16 0PG
Telephone: 01622 757350

Executive Head: Mrs J Young

5th April 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted to formally welcome Belmont Pre-School to the Orchard Academy Trust family of Schools. The Pre-School officially transfers on 6th April; it has been a long and drawn out process, not dissimilar to that of purchasing a property, but despite all the frustrations along the way we are looking forward to working with the children, staff and families of the Pre-School.

A lot of time has been spent improving the presentation of the school this year. In September the children returned to a freshly decorated school and they have played an important role in producing some amazing displays to enhance the walls and show off their fantastic work. I have been particularly impressed with the recycle bottle top displays around the building – thank you to everybody involved with these. I am sure you will have noticed how fabulous the school is looking when you come in for assemblies and parent meetings and feel as proud as we do of the school and your lovely children.

Mr Laker is submitting a bid to raise funds to develop the pond and wild life area on the field to help increase the children's understanding of the environment and even grow their own vegetables!

There has been a focus this year on embedding the school's values into the curriculum and the children have produced some great work embracing our values of: courage; wisdom; respect and responsibility.

We have also continued to embed the Forest Schools teaching across the school which has realised huge benefits to the children as they have improved confidence, self-esteem, resilience and problem solving skills. Thank you to Gallagher's whose financial support has enabled us to continue with this venture. If anybody knows of a business who would like to sponsor us in the next academic year, please contact Mr Laker.

It has been great to see so many children enjoying the holiday club during the school breaks. The children enjoy lots of fun activities from sport and cooking to snooker and computer games. They also visit local parks, Kent Life and Adventure Kidz, Maidstone Museum and this holiday will even have some Judo lessons. We have received lots of positive feedback so don't forget to book your places in time for the Summer holiday via the school office. There are some places available in the Easter break so for last minute bookings please contact Siobhain Scanlon on 07512110964.

I wish you all a lovely Easter break!

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Mrs J Young', written over a horizontal line.

Mrs J Young