



Orchard Academy Trust

Hildenborough Crescent, Maidstone,
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Executive Head: Mrs J Young

27th September 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you all had an enjoyable summer break and that your children have settled back into the routines of school life – working hard, with a healthy balance of play along the way!

I would like to congratulate the staff and children at Barming Primary School for their hard work and commitment in the last twelve months. Their efforts have been rewarded with good results in KS2 that have improved on last year and are broadly in line with, or above national averages. We also celebrate the outstanding results at KS1, Year 1 Phonics and EYFS, all of which are above national averages. I am immensely proud of all the staff and children for these achievements.

Thank you to Mr Moon who spent the holiday decorating the hall which now looks much lighter and brighter showing off the displays of the children's work magnificently!

This year our focus is on outdoor learning and the skills based curriculum; this will help develop your children into independent, confident learners who are resilient to failure and not afraid of making mistakes; giving them the best possible chance to realise their potential. Staff across the Trust spent the Inset day at the beginning of term building dens at Wild Times Woodland Adventures, to develop their outdoor teaching and learning skills and are looking forward to sharing these with the children. Miss Rootes, with some support from parents, has made successful bids to local companies: Bovis Homes and Gallaghers to raise in excess of £10,000 to fund Forest School opportunities across all year groups. We will also focus on writing this year and there will be lots of exciting opportunities to help the children develop their writing skills.

By now, you will also be aware of the great range of after school clubs being offered by the staff to enrich your children's learning experiences; hopefully there is something for everyone! This year every class will be performing an assembly which you will be invited to come along to, to find out about the many exciting things the children have been learning.

We will be replacing the ICT Suite with 32 new computers during the next term! Thank you to the PTA for their support and contribution towards the costs and to you also, for supporting PTA events.

The Trust website was launched at the beginning of the week which you can access via the school website or by typing the following address: www.orchardacademytrust.co.uk the website is a work in progress and there are a few additions to be made and links to activate; these will hopefully be achieved within the next week.

I know there are lots of exciting lessons and events planned between now and Christmas and I look forward to reporting on further progress later in the year.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a large, stylized loop followed by a long, horizontal stroke that tapers to the right.

Mrs J Young

Executive Headteacher