



Wychbold First and Nursery School

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Dear Parents and Carers

With Christmas now fast approaching and lots of exciting activities taking place in school I am writing to let you know of some of the developments that have been taking place this term. I am sure you will agree that the inside of the school is looking very good after all the hard work over the summer months and that the new nursery building is an excellent resource for our youngest children.

Attendance has improved a lot this term. Currently it stands at 95.99% which is almost reaching our target of 96%. Thank you for all your support with this and for getting your children to school on time, sometimes against the odds of heavy traffic and road works. Thank you for supporting the policy of not taking children out of school for holidays in term time. Interestingly enough if there had been no unauthorised absence for holidays this term the school attendance would stand at 97.3% which would be above our target. It would be excellent if we could not only achieve but exceed our target this year!

As you know the Governing Body have been involved in talks with other local schools about organisation and partnership working for the future for some time now. In fact it is almost two years since we met as a group of first and middle schools to consider how we could work together. This had come about due to government policy encouraging schools to work together as groups of academies and because severe cutbacks in the Local Authority meant that support which had previously been forthcoming was no longer available. Over the last two years there have been a number of developments with different local schools following a variety of pathways. In the spring of this year the governors came to the conclusion that the best way forward for Wychbold was to join an existing Multi Academy Trust (known as a MAT) and we went to visit other schools who had made this change successfully. The results of our visits, discussions and deliberations has been that we have made the recommendation to join the Rivers Multi Academy Trust. This is a group of twelve other successful schools who work together and support each other. Two other local schools, St Peter's Droitwich and Cutnall Green Primary have also joined this MAT. After Christmas we shall start a period of more formal consultation when I shall write again with more details and invite parents to an event to share information. We feel that this is a very good way forward for our school, improving opportunities for children and staff whilst retaining our individual identity.

I look forward to sharing more of this good news with you once the Christmas festivities are over and in the meantime wish you all a happy and peaceful holiday.

With best wishes

Eleanor Sinton
Chair of Governors

