



Dear parents and carers,

20th December 2021

As-Salaamu-Alaykum and a very happy Monday to you all.

As we come to the end of the Autumn term, I write to thank you once again for all the support that you have given to school over this term...we've had an incredible time filled with learning, laughter and of course, lots of love. The children have established themselves well into their new year groups and are making super progress towards their end of year targets. We see our school values of peace, unity and equality being lived out daily and our collective worship remains a very special time of the day. Pupil voice shows that children enjoy coming to school and are loving their curriculum enterprises...I know that there is lots of excitement about starting new enterprises in January! Our enrichment offer has been really extended this year with: Early Bird Enrichment, Curriculum Enrichment, Golden Friday Enrichment and After school Enrichment – we're extremely proud to offer our children all of these additional opportunities to learn and grow.

Our Ark provision has already established itself as an excellent specialist provision where children are able to access focussed and targeted support in their learning. This helps us to ensure that all children are able to thrive. We know that we're getting this right from talking to our children, talking to you, tracking children's progress and sharing in all the wonderful learning opportunities that our teaching and learning team are providing. In January, we'll have 400 children on roll and I'm incredibly proud that all 400 children will be receiving a great primary school experience.

I know that I have your full support in thanking the Zayteam for their commitment and creativity this term – they've all worked very hard to keep the children safe, fed, happy and learning. The end of term is always a time to say some goodbyes and we'll be saying farewell to Miss Shaabdi, Mrs Mann, Mrs Zaheer, Miss Papanania and Mrs Russell. I extend thanks from us all for their work in school and wish them every success in their next steps. Goodbyes mean that we also get to say some hellos and I'm delighted that in January we'll be welcoming Mrs Perkinson as our new Assistant Headteacher. Mrs Perkinson is an experienced Assistant Head with an excellent track record in curriculum leadership. She met Istanbul last week and led some fantastic reading learning with them. She'll be joining Mr Haroon in Y5 and the two of them will be working hard on our school priorities. Mrs Dandy will be joining us as the new teacher in Olives 2. Mrs Dandy has a wealth of experience in Early Years teaching and learning and has already been impressed with how kind and hard working our children are. Mrs Hogan will be moving from Olives 2 to Y2. She already has great relationships with these children and has real strength in the KS1 curriculum to support them in their transition up to Y3. Miss Wilkinson will be joining us in Y3 alongside Miss Lamb. Miss Wilkinson completed her training with Transform Trust and has great experience of the Y3 curriculum. Mr Dalton will be joining us as a HLTA and comes with expertise in all curriculum areas and has a real love of computing; he made a great impact on Y4 when he was in a couple of weeks ago. As you can see, we have a wealth of experience and expertise joining us and I'm very excited to see what the Zayteam will be getting up to in the Spring term.

Although we find ourselves in a period once again of uncertainty around Covid, I'm confident that the Zayatouna Family will once again work together to make the very best that we can out of the situation. Over the last few years, we've shown that we're able to remain connected, remain learning and remain smiling despite the challenges that may be placed on us. As such, I'll be sure to keep you updated with any developments as soon as we hear them from the DfE and the government.

I wish you all a fabulous winter break filled with peace, joy and lots of love.

Best wishes,
Miss Storer