



The Shared Learning Trust

THE LINDEN
ACADEMY

Dear Parents/Carers

September seems like a distant memory. It has been a long and busy Autumn Term packed with activities, visitors into school, educational visits outside of school and of course our performances. This has all been in addition to our staff and children working extremely hard to cover the national curriculum and to ensure our children all fulfil their potential.

The highlights for me this season are always the amazing productions where we all watch fantastic acting, singing and dancing. It is great to see the confidence in our children and the smiles on their faces. Again, these events enrich the curriculum and allow education to take place both inside and outside of the classroom.

On behalf of all at the trustees and governors I would like to say thank you to the school staff and the pupils for their hard work throughout the term. I would also like to say thank you for the support that we receive from parents/carers, and the community in making a difference to so many young lives.

Let us remind ourselves that whatever our beliefs, this is the time of year when the spirit of human kindness means so much for ourselves and others. Let us embrace this by ensuring that we enjoy ourselves but also take time to look out for those nearest and dearest to us and those less fortunate than ourselves.

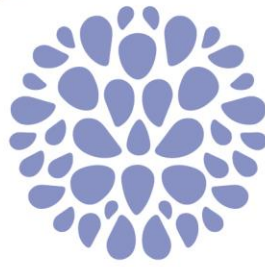
The New Year brings with it new challenges as the school continues to expand and evolve. Our new term begins on Monday 7th January 2019 and we look forward to seeing our pupils return refreshed and eager to learn in the New Year.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all well at this special time of the year and hope 2019 brings you more amazing experiences.

Best wishes

Mrs Lesley Whittle

Head of School



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You Said We Did!

We are constantly working to ensure we are responding to your needs to that end the parent focus group has been key. At the last meeting, parents raised a number valuable aspects they would like and these have now been put into practise:

Curriculum over view and maps:

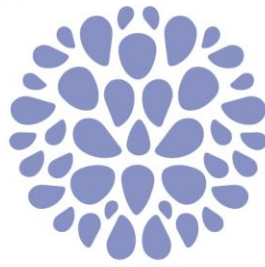
We are looking into buying a curriculum package to start in January this will give you in-depth guidance on what is being delivered. In the meantime, we have added the long-term overview and a jigsaw map on our website. Please visit the curriculum section.

Rewards and Behaviour:

We agree with parents that the current rewards system was limiting the children and at times, if they lost the reward at the start of the term they were not motivated to work towards a goal at the end of the term. To that effect, we reviewed the rewards and behaviour ladder. This has been simplified to clearly show the children what they can work towards. We have launched the Marvellous Me app – this is a direct communication tool with parents please log into this.

Uniform is being monitored on a weekly basis – can you please ensure the children are in the correct PE please. Our uniform is looking great but we do have the odd missing ties and blazers in the upper school. Please note if you need any support talk to your child's class teacher or a member of the leadership team. After the winter break, pupils will be given sanctions for incorrect or missing uniform.

Pupil Premium- Please note if you have received any benefits, which would will result in your child receiving free school meals within the six last year's please let us know. As this means they are entitled to receive additional funding which the school can use towards supporting their time with us. This applies to Years 1,2 and reception.



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More Able Pupils:

We have now identified children as being more able in Maths, English or both. This means they have the potential to progress and achieve significantly above age-related expectations. To support their progress each pupil has an Individual Challenge Plans (ICP) with targets and strategies to support their class teacher. If your child fits into this category, you would have received a letter from Mrs Edwards – Leading on More Able Pupils.

Parent Focus Group:

Our parent focus is proving to be very successful it is an opportunity for you to represent the whole parent community. Mrs Badu as the Chair of our local governing board attended the last meeting. If you would like to be part of this group, please contact Ms Akram. Next meeting will be 16th Jan at 5:30pm. Agenda and minutes on our website in the parental involvement section.

In the Spring Term, Mrs Whittle will be responding to the responses from the parent survey.



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The Anti-Bullying Ambassador programme is part of the charity, The Diana Award. The Diana Award was founded as a legacy of Diana, Princess of Wales' belief that young people have the power to change the world for the better. Our children had the opportunity to take part in the programme and came back full with ideas on how they will have an impact on the Linden community.

The programme allows you to:

1. encourage young people for the contribution to their communities
2. empower young people to achieve their full potential
3. engage young people in social action to make a difference in the lives of others, through our Anti-bullying, Training and Mentoring Programmes.



We went to The Vale to train to become Anti-bullying ambassadors for The Linden. We met pupils from different schools and told them about us. We had a challenge to see if we are the same as everyone else but we all have different things. I was chosen to be the team leader to take phone calls to Elonar. I had a really nice day with the team.

Eva 😊





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Images of the week:



Times tables leader board	
Position	Name (Questions answered)
1 st	Riana Karaj (1951)
2 nd	Tiana Oji (1787)
3 rd	Lataya Dowling (1365)
4 th	Elvis Osei-Pepurah (1220)
5 th	Hassan Haider (1130)
6 th	Yasmin Islam (804)
7 th	Jada Stephenson (598)