

The Welland Primary Schools Federation



Dear Parents & Carers,

As the first half term comes to an end and with our Federation now established, I feel this is an appropriate opportunity to share the vision and purpose of The Welland Primary Schools Federation, which came into being on 1st September.

I hope that your experience, in terms of routines, school uniform and familiarity of school life at the start of this year has been little different from previous years. It is very important that the individuality and distinctiveness of each school within the federation is recognised and valued, as is the acknowledgement that each school serves its own, unique, community.

However, the children may have begun to notice subtle differences in the approach to learning. We have high expectations and aspirations for every child in our schools and this means we are continually raising the level of challenge, academically and emotionally, for every child. We are promoting a growth mind set approach across the federation and we work hard to develop children's self-esteem so they can become resilient problem solvers, creative thinkers, risk takers and communicators. All children may, occasionally, find learning hard and may experience struggle. They may not get all their answers correct. This shows they are experiencing deep learning and their brains are growing. Children are developing skills that enable them to discuss their learning with their peers, to problem solve together, find, and explain their answers. We are creating environments in which every child feels valued and is encouraged to take ownership and responsibility for their roles as learners.

Within our federation, we have teachers and teaching assistants who are highly skilled in a range of specialist areas. This means staff with specific skills can support colleagues to develop their own skills further. For example, we have members of staff whose skills lie in working with our more vulnerable children, members of staff highly skilled in specific National Curriculum subjects, others who can lead sport and yet others whose skills and drive is the pastoral side of education. This can only have a positive impact on children's learning.

In order to provide high quality, sustainable education, it is clear that schools need to work together to create strong partnerships. The Federation Governors, all staff and I are determined that the Welland Primary Schools Federation will become a beacon of education excellence.

I thank you for your support in helping the journey to this point and I wish you an enjoyable half term break.

Andrew Raistrick
Executive Headteacher
The Welland Primary Schools Federation