



Samuel Cody School

Ballantyne Road, Farnborough. Hants. GU14 8SN
Telephone: 01252 514194 Fax: 01252 546430
Email: adminoffice@samuelcody.hants.sch.uk
Community: 01252 401080 or 01252 401087

Headteacher: Mrs S Chinnappa BSc M.Ed. NPQH

8th February 2023

General Update

Dear Parents/Carers,

I thought that I would update you on some school news and other things that are happening across the school. I also wanted to let you know about the changes to some of our progress reports which you will be receiving shortly.

Back in September, due to the expansion of our school, the governors felt that the school needed a Deputy Headteacher, to help manage the increased demands of running such a large special school. Interviews were held last Friday and I am pleased to tell you that Mr Jenkins was successful in being offered the post. This will be effective from 1st April. We all wish him success in his new role.

As you know, Mr Creaser, our Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for our primary school, is sadly moving on at Easter and we have been attempting to recruit a replacement to take the primary school onto its next stage of development. We held interviews yesterday but sadly were not able to appoint. We have therefore re-advertised the post and hope to get someone in place for September 2023. You will all understand how important it is to get the right person for the school. In the meantime, Mr Jenkins will continue to support the primary team until we have recruited someone to take Mr Creaser's place. I know too, that you will join me in thanking Mr Creaser for his hard work over the years and wishing him good luck for the future.

With half term fast approaching, it is the time of the year where we prepare and send out reports on the progress of your child. All primary and KS4 students have a similar reporting style to last year.

This year, however, we are piloting a different approach to KS3 reports. These new style reports will give you information on what level of learning your child is expected to achieve by the end of the academic year. There are five different learner levels, ranging from needing full support to achieve an objective, to being able to evidence a skill independently. It is crucial to look at the expected learner level for each subject before thinking that your child is not making progress.

Each subject has 5 key skills that students are working towards. The learner level expected in each subject might be different, so be prepared for these to vary throughout your child's report. If for example, the target learning level indicated for Maths is a 2, and your child has received '1's, then this means that your child has not reached that target yet but is working towards it. Progress will be measured over the

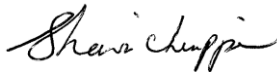
year, and it is expected that with the right support your child will get to that target learner level of a 2 or even exceed it with a 3. It is important to remember that learning is a journey, and so it is quite normal for your child not to be at the target level yet. Due to our student's needs, it may take them a number of years to be able to use a skill independently, and so as long as they are moving towards their learner level, and not moving backwards, they are making progress.

If your child's report has blank lines in it, as indicated by the key, this is because that skill has not yet been taught. If a whole subject is blank, it means that this is a subject where we have had long-term teacher absence. A fair judgement has not been able to be made about progress in these subjects. Both IT and French may have no grades for this reason. These areas of the curriculum should be able to input progress data at the next round of reporting. Some students are withdrawn from some classes, and so it is not appropriate to give a report on this subject. In time I will be seeking feedback on the new style of reports, to inform us of how to proceed in the future.

As always, if you have any questions about your child's report, please contact your child's tutor in the first instance.

Thank you for your continued support of the school, and I hope that you manage to have an enjoyable half term break.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Chinnappa
Headteacher
Samuel Cody School