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20.10.17

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you to everyone who has attended the parent events this term regarding the question of partnership working with other schools, and particularly the request from Firle to formalise our partnership with them and become a federated school.

Our Full Governing Body has had a visit from the Chair of Governors of a local federated school, and from a County Council adviser, to advise us on what we should do next when thinking about becoming a federated school.

Based on this advice, we have established a task group which is made up of both Laughton and Firle governors, to oversee the partnership as it stands and to investigate the question of becoming a federation. This group will meet in the week after half term to discuss the questions that you posed to us in the parent meetings, and other questions that have been put to us by email, as well as questions we discussed at our last Full Governing Body meeting. Following this meeting we will decide, along with the rest of the Governing Body, whether or not to progress to the next stage of the federation process and will write to you again to let you know the outcome.

Should we decide to proceed to the next stage, we will then outline details of a formal consultation period. This consultation period would include a series of presentations and meetings, giving further opportunities for parents and other stakeholders to express their views and raise questions.

We continue to welcome parents' views and questions and thank you for all your input so far.

Wishing you all a pleasant break.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'DK', is written over a faint, large, light-green background graphic of a tree with hands as leaves.

Denise Kong
Chair of Governors