

# Head Teacher's Message

9<sup>th</sup> October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Yet another thoroughly productive week at Halling Primary School! I have had many pupils share their wonderful learning this week which is amazing! I have loved seeing Hallie's and Zac's one more, one less mathematics learning, as well as Darcy's writing to name but a few and I look forward to seeing many more next week.

As I am sure you are all aware, today is World Mental Health Day. Mental health and well-being is absolutely fundamental and at Halling, we encourage everyone (pupils, staff, parents and the wider community) to talk and support one another. It is absolutely paramount - in particular during the current pandemic - to look after ourselves and one another. Today, we have participated in #HelloYellow to raise money for Young Minds - a charity which focuses on young people and their families. I would like to thank you all for your generosity; your donations are very much appreciated for such a wonderful cause. Children have completed a mental health questionnaire in school this week and over the course of the next couple of weeks, I will be looking at the responses and seeing what we can do to support our pupils further. I look forward to updating you on what we will hopefully be putting in place moving forwards following your children's responses.

Following this week's AGM, I would like to congratulate Lisa Hoy and Kayleigh Trowell for being formally made co-chairs of the PTA; I am certain they will thrive in the roles, continuing to support our school. I would also like to take the opportunity to thank Gemma Bowker and Michelle Ashlee for all of their hard work as co-chairs for several years, raising lots of money to support our brilliant school, pupils and families. As stated in the previous newsletter, please do not hesitate to contact either Kayleigh or Lisa via [pta@halling.medway.sch.uk](mailto:pta@halling.medway.sch.uk) if you are interested in joining, or if you have any questions.

A few year 6 parents have contacted the school asking for information about transition to secondary school. As this year is different for obvious reasons, some schools may not be conducting physical tours but instead producing virtual tours. Below are links to a few secondary schools which explain a little more about what they have planned for transition and in some cases, a prospectus with more information:

<https://stjohnfisher.school/2019-open-day-events/>

<https://stroodacademy.org.uk/admissions/>

<https://www.rochestergrammar.org.uk/discoverrochestergrammar/>

<https://www.holcombegrammar.org.uk/discoverholcombegrammar/>

<https://www.invicta.viat.org.uk/2867/joining-invicta-in-september-2021>

<https://www.aylesford.kent.sch.uk/news/year-6-open-events>

<http://www.themallingschool.kent.sch.uk/397/year-6-open-day>

<http://www.wrothamschool.com/open-events-information-year-6-for-2021/>

<http://www.holmesdale.kent.sch.uk/admissions/new-applications/school-admissions>

I appreciate this is not an exhaustive list of secondary schools, but please check websites which will be full of fundamental information to support prospective parents. If you have any questions about the process, please do not hesitate to contact Miss McGloin.

Mrs Hutton - our Office Manager - sadly departed at the very beginning of the academic year. I would like to announce that we have recruited a Senior Administration Officer - Abby Beeching. Mrs Beeching will be starting the week of the 19<sup>th</sup> October and supporting Mrs Carr-Taylor in the office. I'm sure you will join me in welcoming Mrs Beeching to the team; I'm certain she will settle in beautifully.

Sadly, Miss McGloin will be departing at the end of this term (Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October). Miss McGloin will be pursuing a different career as a social worker which I know she will be very successful in with her wide range of experiences and vast knowledge. Miss McGloin will be sincerely missed by all members of the learning community and we wish her all the very best for the future.

I have been very disappointed to receive reports from parents that other parents are continuing to park in obstructive places, blocking the view of our families. Please can I remind you that we need to be mindful of where we park for the children; we must make sure our actions are safe for ALL members of our learning community! In addition, we must ensure that we treat everyone in our learning community with respect, including our School Crossing Patrol, whose role is to support us all in what already is a very difficult time, as well as showing respect to other parents/carers.

Finally, I hope you all have a wonderful weekend and I look forward to seeing you all on the gate on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Selmi  
Head Teacher



# CORONAVIRUS STAY ALERT TO THE SYMPTOMS

**HIGH TEMPERATURE  
OR NEW CONTINUOUS COUGH  
OR LOSS OF TASTE OR SMELL?**

No one in your household should leave home  
if any one person has symptoms.

Find out how to get a test, and how long to  
isolate, at [nhs.uk/coronavirus](https://www.nhs.uk/coronavirus)

**STAY ALERT ▶ CONTROL THE VIRUS ▶ SAVE LIVES**



HM Government

**NHS**

**WASH**



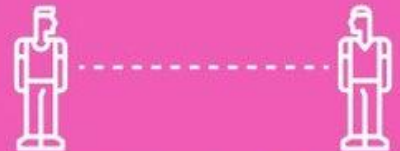
**HANDS**

**COVER**



**FACE**

**MAKE**



**SPACE**