

March 1<sup>st</sup> 2024



Dear Parents and Guardians,

It has been wonderful to hear that the pupils enjoyed their half-term break! It's so important for them to have time to relax, recharge and have fun.

The next half term ahead promises to be action-packed and busy, it's great that they had the chance to unwind before diving back into their studies and activities. Short half-terms, like this one, can indeed feel quite full, but it also means there will be plenty of exciting things happening. Please encourage your children to approach it with enthusiasm and energy. Remind them to stay organised and make the most of the opportunities that come their way. Whether it is academic challenges, co-curricular activities, or personal goals, it is a chance for them to shine and make the most of their potential.

One thing that I would like to achieve this half term is to pave the way to appoint our next pupil leadership teams. Pupil leadership is important because it empowers students, develops valuable skills, fosters a positive school culture, and prepares them to be active, engaged citizens within their communities. Through these roles, pupils learn not just about leading others but also about themselves, their strengths, and their potential to make a difference. This process will start with Year 10 and then next term with Year 5 ready to begin their roles in essence in September. The process will involve letters of application and short interviews. I will write in more detail to the year groups involved in the next few weeks.

Today, children from Reception to Year 6 will be coming home with a flyer about our Easter Egg Hunt on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> March. Please do ask your friends to come along and join in the fun. This event is open to children up to the age of 11 years old and their families. Please see our homepage to book your place.

As you will know, our dedicated group of parents who give their time to FOLS (Friends of LGS Stoneygate) work hard to champion our community. They offer fundraising events to further enhance our pupils' learning experience and organise social events for parents and families. FOLS is a registered charity and the money that FOLS raises helps FOLS to fund many projects. For example, FOLS donated, along with the Trust, the funds for Dev's Treehouse in the lower years' playground which has also served as a theatre for the older years. So far this year, through your support of activities such as the cake sales, the flower workshops and the second-hand uniform shop, FOLS has purchased new aprons in the Food Tech department, medals for the Community Run and of course Mr Palmer's Grotto (sorry, Santa's Grotto!)

A FOLS letter with more details has gone out in parents' groups this week, however, I really wanted to encourage everyone to join us at the forthcoming Stoneyfest. Please look at how good this event is going to be:

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1xXFNYbPhinvG0SG6NI0O7n9rFeZzEk-D/view?usp=drivesdk>

and to book your tickets, visit: <https://lgss-fols.sumupstore.com/>

Next week we are hosting our Values in Action: Creative Arts Week with many events on the agenda. It is certainly going to be a noteworthy event. Please see below for the activities planned:

#### **Monday 4 March**

Reception – Yr 9, Gospel Singing and Dancing Workshops

#### **Wednesday 6 March**

Reception, Yr 1, 2, 4 & 5, Short Drama/Talent Performances, school hall, 8.45-9.30am, parents invited

#### **Thursday 7 March**

Reception - Yr 3, Zoom Workshop with Author Jane Clarke

Reception – Yr 6, World Book Day

Yrs 6, 7 & 8 Drumming Workshop with Mr Litster

**Friday 8 March**

Yr 3, Boudica Performance, school hall, 8.45-9.30am, parents invited

Yr 9 & 11 Art pupils, Architect and Graphic Designer Talk

Mrs Mills' Dance Club, Tap Performance, school hall, 3.15pm, parents invited

Yr 6, Romeo and Juliet Performance, school hall, 4.30pm, parents invited

**Other Events**

Yr 11 Exam Week

Pre-Prep Parents' Meetings Week

**Wednesday 6 March**

Year 5 & 6 Cross Country Meet, 1.10pm

Year 8 Parents' Meetings, from 4.30pm

FOLS Mother's Day Floral Living Card Workshop

**Friday 8 March**

Yr 10 BTEC Animal Care, Stoughton Grange Farm Park

Have a lovely weekend.

With all best wishes,

Mrs McCullough

Headmistress