

City of Rochester School Newsletter



Summer 1 2020

Introduction from the Head

Welcome to the Summer 1 edition of the newsletter. This term has been a busy and difficult one for our school community and we want to acknowledge it has been a worrying time for many of our families. We had many exciting initiatives planned this term – including our parents' evening and art exhibition which, for obvious reasons did not go ahead. I look forward to being able to reschedule these events during the new academic year. I would just like to take this opportunity to reiterate the measures we are taking to safeguard our school community and refer you back to the recent letters I have written to you all detailing this. I would encourage the parents/carers of those children not attending school, to consider the benefits of allowing your child to attend school again – we will work with you to reassure you of all the measures we are taking to ensure our school is as safe and as clean as it possibly can be.

I hope that you enjoy reading some of the highlights. Our school is growing in terms of pupil numbers and staffing; every half-term we have building and refurbishment works taking place to transform the learning space. This term we have been laying new tarmac around parts of the school and are having some new doors fitted internally.

I wish you and your family a restful break. I hope that you and your loved ones are safe and well and I want to thank you for your continued support.

Alicja Emmett
Headteacher

Key Dates

17 July 2020 –
End of
Summer Term

News

Curriculum News

Plans are underway for the new academic year and our experiential offer from September onwards looks very exciting. We will obviously need to be guided by the Government and the science in terms of how social distancing will be managed and whether school trips and outings are safe to take place.

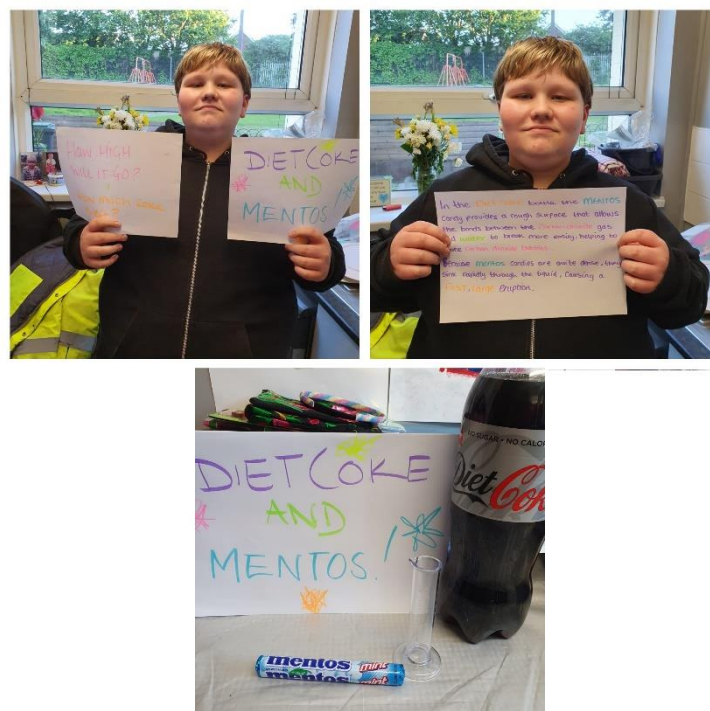
Many of our children are doing very well learning from home. I'd like to take the opportunity to say huge congratulations to our pupils for working so diligently and to the parents for supporting their learning. This can only be helpful in ensuring pupils are not falling behind and are well prepared for when they return to school. I'd like to share some pictures with you below of some of our children working hard. If you have any pictures of your child engaging in educational activities, please share these with us as we would love to see what they have been doing.

There will be no end of term reports issued for pupils this term. We are preparing an end of year report for all of our pupils showing progress across the year and this will be sent to you at the end of the academic year.

A big Shout-Out to Theo – as we can see working hard at home. Well done to Theo!



Well done to Stevie – carrying out a science experiment at home!



Work is underway for the school to be awarded a number of quality marks over the next academic year. These being:

The National Online Safety Quality Mark. This programme that ensures that the school has an effective approach to online safety to promote safeguarding for the whole school community – including our families.

The NAS Autism Accreditation. This is the UK's only autism specific quality assurance programme of support and development for all those providing services to autistic people. Achieving this accreditation will demonstrate that our school is committed to setting the standard for best autism practice.

Anti-Bullying Quality Mark. This is a national award that challenges schools and academies to demonstrate their effectiveness in anti-bullying. It endorses the belief that the safety, mental health and wellbeing of everyone are essential elements of learning, development and achievement.

It will demonstrate that:

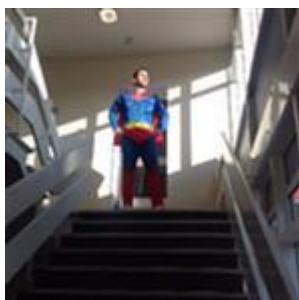
- Children and young people come to school without the fear of being bullied
- Staff members respond to all aspects of bullying behaviour with confidence
- Parents are confident that they know who to approach about bullying and that it is dealt with efficiently and effectively
- Bullying is not accepted or tolerated

City of Rochester School Announces:

New Staff:

We have a number of new staff who have recently joined us. Welcome to Louise, Stacey, Gary and Nick. Louise and Stacey have joined our learning support team; Gary is our new Caretaker and Nick has joined us as Form Tutor for Saturn Class and he will be teaching Science and PE. After the half-term break I'd very much like to welcome Hannah who will be supporting our community partnerships offer and to Rebecca who will be joining Venus class as part of the learning support team and to Tania one of our new teachers.

Introduction from Nick Stone, Teacher



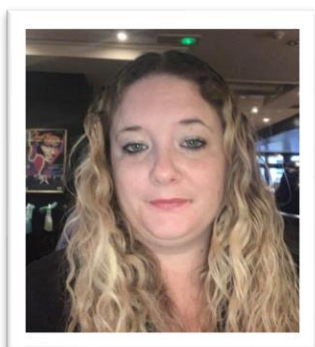
I started teaching in 2006 and have taught in a variety of schools. My main subject is Physical Education, but I have also taught Science and Geography. I am looking forward to working with so many amazing young people (and staff of course). I enjoy watching West Ham United, playing football, as well as rugby and tennis. I also love cooking and spending time with my wife and 2 young daughters.

Introduction from Louise Harper, Learning Support

I wanted to work at City of Rochester School because from my very first day it felt very welcoming. I really enjoy the experiential curriculum activities that the school organises; the children greatly benefit from this and it is such a great idea.

My hobbies and interests are horse riding, reading, walking and knitting. I'm very adventurous and will try anything once! Heights are my biggest fear but I paraglided off the top of a mountain in Turkey. I am a big animal lover too.

Introduction from Stacey McKenna, Learning Support



My name is Stacey, I am 32 years old and a mother of two beautiful children, I have 2 dogs, 3 cats, and a garden full of chickens. I enjoy gardening, playing darts, and most importantly spending time with my family.

I am really looking forward to joining the team at the City of Rochester School, and being a part of all of the wonderful work that the staff already do.

Introduction from Gary, our new School Caretaker

I am excited to be part of City of Rochester School and its growing community. I am really looking forward to working with all the staff and meeting the pupils. I enjoy sports especially football, gardening, going out and exploring new places.

We would like to extend our congratulations to Lauren our PE teacher who has had a baby girl, named Suri. Lauren will be away from school for a while on maternity leave and will be back with us in the new academic year.

