

# City of Rochester School Newsletter



## Summer 2 2020

### Introduction from the Head

Welcome to the Summer 2 edition of the newsletter and the last one of this academic year.

This term has been busy and challenging for our school community and we acknowledge that it has also been a worrying time for many of our families. However, City of Rochester School has remained open and we have also provided an on-line remote learning platform for pupils who have stayed at home. Our outreach programme to families has also been well received and I am optimistic that we can open in September 2020 as near to normal as possible.

I look forward to welcoming our pupils back to school and to welcoming new pupils and staff in September. We have a great year to look forward to with the full implementation of the CoRS Experiential Curriculum which will be sent out to you before September along with your child's timetable. This is designed to enable our children to realise their potential and to enact the core mission and purpose of our school – the building of **Confidence, Resilience and Success**. This means our children will be as well prepared as possible for life outside school and help them to develop skills and talents which they can value and which will be valued in wider society.

Alicja Emmett  
Headteacher

### Key Dates

Term 1  
8/9/2020–22/10/2020

Term 2  
9/11/2020– 6/12/2020

Parents Evening  
16/12/2020

## News

### Accreditation offer

As we continue our journey to raise standards and expectations at City of Rochester School, we require our courses to be accredited and for pupils to sit accredited examinations. These examinations are the hard currency pupils need to make progress in their lives and are a key component in developing confidence and celebrating success. Parents/Carers have been advised of these courses as pupils have selected options for the new academic year.

### COVID-19

We all need to continue being alert to the presence of the virus. We have produced advice and guidance for parents and this is enclosed in your pack.

## Building works

As you can see, we have created 3 new classrooms from the space in the hall. One will be a dedicated ICT suite, one will be a science room and the other a classroom. We have also created two new learning pods at the back of the art room – quiet spaces for pupils to sit and learn away from the classroom.

The Hall has three new classrooms. This is the work so far. We expect this to be completed by the time pupils return to school



Reception has changed. Again, we expect this work to be completed by the time pupils return to school.



## Parental Advisory Group

Our partnership with parents and carers is vital to our success. To that end, we have inaugurated a Parental Advisory Group. This group will meet every term and will provide inputs to the school as follows:

- Support the development of policies and procedures
- Bring together the school with the community
- Improve communication with our parents/carers
- Contribute their experiences in general to the school

I will write to those parents who have expressed an interest in being a member of the Parental Advisory Group separately and send out the full Terms of Reference for this group.

## **New Trustees**

Strengthening our governance is a key part of our strategic plan. City of Rochester School is an education charity, governed by a board of trustees. We are delighted to advise you that we are in the process of welcoming another Trustee to the Board. I will share further details with you in due course.

## **City of Rochester School Announces:**

### **New Staff:**

We are joined this year by a strong team of new staff, including a new Occupational Therapist called Fola and for the first time, a School Nurse called Jenny. We also have many new teachers and support staff starting with us – you will meet these new staff at our parents evening in December. Where applicable, and where there has been a change we have enclosed staff profiles to enable your child to become familiar with new staff members. Parents/carers have also been telephoned to advise of any significant changes.

We also say goodbye to Natalie Grant and Melissa Maher. We thank them for their service and contribution to the school and wish them well for the future.