

16 February 2024

Dear parent/carer

### Spring 1 Update

It has been another busy term at Windmill Hill and although we've seen some wild and wet weather, at the time of writing the sun is shining so let's hope Spring is on the way! Please see below an update of some of the key developments in school this term and also some of our plans going forward.

### Curriculum Development & Training Day

**Please remember that we are closed to students for a Staff Training Day on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February. School reopens on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> .**

As you know, we are continuing to develop our curriculum to make sure we meet the needs of all of our students. As part of our communication strategy, we are introducing a new phonics program to support reading where appropriate and all staff will be attending a training day on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February which is why we are closed to students. We also have new developments in the way we are teaching Personal, Health, Social & Economic (PSHE) Education and Careers & Employability including a project working with a local Enterprise Partner. More information will follow about all of these developments but we would also like to invite you to a Curriculum Information Event next term – see Save the Date below.

#### Save the Date!

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> March 9.30am or 4.30pm Curriculum Information Event**

The session for parents and carers will run twice at different times to enable you to choose the one most convenient.

### Staffing Update

As we continue to grow, we are also growing our staff team and I'm delighted to introduce the following new members of staff and also new roles that existing staff will be taking up after half term.

#### Leadership Team

Amanda will be joining us as Deputy Head after Easter.

Dipa joined the leadership team in January and Amreen Sadia started as Assistant Head at the beginning of February.

#### Pastoral Team

We are expanding our Pastoral Team and straight after half term, we will have two Learning Mentors and two Wellbeing Support Assistants. Three of these roles will be taken by existing staff members – Harleigh as Learning Mentor and Ripa & Iqra as Wellbeing Assistants – and we also welcome back Lashan to Windmill as he returns to take up a position of Learning Mentor.

Headteacher  
Merushka Hansraj



Head of School  
Michelle Brett

### Spring & Summer Terms

See below key dates for the Spring & Summer Terms:-

Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	School Closed to Students – Phonics training for staff
Tuesday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	First day of Spring 2
Thursday 7 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day
Friday 15 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief Red Nose Day
Thursday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	Last day of Spring 2 - break up for Easter
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> April	School reopens - First day of Summer 1
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> May	School Closed – Bank Holiday
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> May	Last day of Summer 1 - break up for Half Term
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	First day of Summer 2
Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Last day of the academic year - break up for Summer

We have lots of great plans for the rest of the Spring & Summer terms including trips into the community and beyond, more enterprise events and parent workshops. Look out for further information. We also look forward to introducing the new members of the Windmill Hill team to you all.

I hope you all have an enjoyable half term and we look forward to seeing students back in school on Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you for your continued support.

Michelle Brett  
Head of School

