

## THE FED HEAD NEWS

### Festive Edition – December 2018



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a very long and busy term, I thought I would write to update you on a few of the things which have been going on in our schools and also to share any key updates for January.

This term has been packed with learning and activities. In addition to our staff and children working extremely hard to cover the National Curriculum and to ensure our children all fulfil their potential, we have had visitors into our schools, such as Twig and Mema the cave people, and educational visits outside of school, such as trips to Framlingham Castle and Duxford, all to enrich our curriculum.

Both schools have felt very festive over the last few weeks. Christmas jumper days have been a flurry of colour, fur and flashing lights and Christmas competitions, raffles and fayres have been enjoyed. We thank parents and families for supporting these. We have been treated to fantastic Christmas performances from our pupils in Reception, Year 1 and 2 at both schools. Aliens visited and learned all about the Christmas story at Bramford, whilst at Somersham a flock of colourful birds guided us through. Reception pupils joined in beautifully with the performance and singing at Somersham and Bramford Reception pupils told their own version of the Christmas story. I would like to thank all the staff and volunteers involved in these productions – a wonderful school Christmas tradition but also a lot of work to make them so special.



The whole of Bramford school enjoyed an end-of-term Christmas Church service on Tuesday morning – with Reverend Jenny sporting another fantastic Christmas jumper! – And today at

Somersham we all enjoyed a festive end-of-term assembly featuring readings and beautiful singing from everyone. It's definitely beginning to feel a lot like Christmas!



**Farewell  
and  
Good Luck**

**Mrs Lea**

Mrs Lea, Head of School at Bramford, leaves us today ready to begin her new role in January as the Headteacher of Bucklesham Primary School.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank her for all of her hard work and commitment, and for all that she has done for the children, families and staff during her time at Bramford. We wish her all the very best for her new start in January.

### School Improvement

This term we have been engaged in lots of work and training to keep improving our schools.

- We have enjoyed using 'No-nonsense Spelling' resources and Accelerated Reader at both of our schools to help us to keep working on and improving our reading and spelling. We will be continuing to work hard in the new term on expanding further the range of Accelerated Reader books we have available in our school libraries so there is plenty of choice to keep our pupils motivated to read and complete their book quizzes!

- We have introduced new processes this term for pupils on our SEND register. Each pupil now has a newly designed support plan. In January, Mrs Sizer-James, our SENCO, and/or classteachers will be arranging to meet with parents of these pupils to discuss the support plans and agree individualised targets which will support them in their learning.



- We have been working on a new 'Kids' Zone' for our website which we are hoping to launch next term to support home learning.

***If you have any great ideas about the website or how you think we could improve our schools further then please do let us know!***

By  
perseverance  
everything  
reaches  
its  
target.

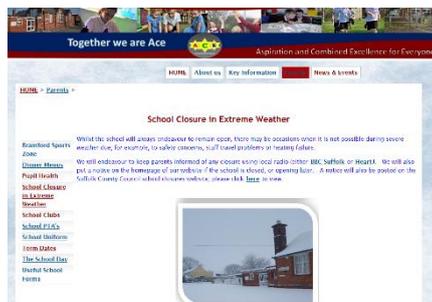
### New Parent Governor

We are pleased to announce that Mrs Saffron Turnell, parent of a Reception pupil at Bramford, has been elected to the Federation Governing Body. The Federation Governing Body ensure the best outcomes for pupils at both of our schools and includes a parent governor from each school.

## Who do I see if..?

Please be reminded that the best person to speak to about your child and almost always the best and quickest way of resolving issues is your child's classteacher. In the majority of situations, they should be the first person you should speak to if you have updated information about your child or any concerns. It is best to chat to your child's teacher at the end of a school day or arrange an appointment as mornings are busy times when they are preparing everything for the day of learning ahead. If you genuinely do not feel it is either appropriate to speak firstly to your child's teacher or your concern is about an aspect of school life beyond the classroom then you can make an appointment to see Mrs Oldfield, Head of School at Somersham or Mrs Squirrell/Mrs Lankester, Acting Deputy Headteachers at Bramford.

If you have been unable to resolve your concern, are still worried or feel your concern is too sensitive to discuss with anyone else, then you can make an appointment to see myself.



## School Closure in the Event of Extreme Weather

Whilst the school will always endeavour to remain open, there may be occasions when it is not possible during severe weather due, for example, to safety concerns, staff travel problems or heating failure. We will endeavour to keep parents informed of any closure using local radio center BBC Suffolk or Heath. We will also post a notice on the homepage of our website if the school is closed, or suspended. A notice will also be posted on the Suffolk County Council school closures website, please click [here](#) to view.

Whilst the school will always endeavour to remain open, we should be prepared in case there should be any severe weather in the New Year. There is now a page on our website which reminds parents and carers of how we will keep you informed should the school need to be closed.

## New Acting Deputy Headteachers at Bramford

We are pleased to announce that, from January, **Mrs Jayne Squirrell and Mrs Sarah Lankester**, will be sharing the role of Acting Deputy Headteacher for Bramford.

Both are highly experienced teachers and are very committed to our school. Alongside their new role they will continue to teach in Year 1 and Year 6.

They will be available on the following days:

**Monday** – Mrs Squirrell and Mrs Lankester

**Tuesday** – Mrs Squirell

**Wednesday** – Mrs Lankester

**Thursday** – Mrs Squirell

**Friday** – Mrs Squirell and Mrs Lankester

Around mid- January the school will be looking to appoint two permanent Deputy Headteachers rather than a single Head of School. This will provide additional leadership capacity now to ensure our school continues to flourish and also prepares us for future school expansion due to the building work in and around the village. More information will follow about school growth over the next two terms.

## SAFEGUARDING AND PREVENT

If you ever have a concern about the safety or welfare of your child, or a child you know, act without delay. You can talk to any of the following people:

Mrs Burgess, Mrs Oldfield, Liza Wright or Vashti Davies – Designated and Alternate Safeguarding Leads  
Mrs Rita Palmer – Safeguarding Governor  
Mrs Sarah Keeble - for e-safety concerns or issues



*On behalf of myself and all of the staff, we wish you, your family and the children a holy and peaceful Christmas and every blessing for the New Year.*

*Best wishes,  
Mrs E Burgess,  
Executive Headteacher*



## Pupil Health

There has been a lot of illness over the term. Attendance matters but please be reminded that in order to minimise the risk of transmission of infection to others, in cases of diarrhoea and/or vomiting, **the recommended period for a child to be kept away from school is 48 hours after the diarrhoea and/or vomiting has ceased.** It would be appreciated if parents could keep to these guidelines.

Further guidance to help you when deciding whether your child is too poorly to go to school can be found on the NHS website. **A link to this is available in the 'Pupil Health' section of our website.**



Positive attitude  
Achievement  
Responsibility & Respect  
Try and try again - persevere  
Independent Learner  
Creativity  
Live, learn and laugh together  
Everyone working together  
Sharing & caring

***Aspiration and Combined Excellence for Everyone – Together we are 'ACE!'***