



Friday 24th January 2025

Dear Parent/Carer

We have had a busy start to our spring term, and I can hardly believe that 3 weeks have already passed us by! We have been enjoying new topics and learning opportunities – Look Up! in Nursery and Reception, Flying high in space in Year 1 and 2 and Above and Below across our junior department! The class pages on our school website have been updated and contain information about our topics and areas of learning that your child will be exploring. Please take a look to see how you can help at home.

We are extremely pleased with the progress that we are continuing to make towards the priorities identified in our school improvement plan. The new White Rose maths scheme is being used to support teaching and learning across school and the newly developed calculations policy has supported with consistency of approach. We have now turned our focus to the development of the children's digital skills and how we can promote their independent learning skills. During this term, we will be exploring different apps and their progression across all year groups. We will be learning how to further develop the children's skills across the breadth of the digital competence framework and how best to prepare them to explore learning in different digital contexts.

On Monday, our staff team and Governors welcomed Miss Thomas back into Dosbarth Willow. Miss Thomas has a wealth of experience of working with our younger children and her creative flare and commitment to our children means that she will be an asset to the Early Years team. Our staff and Governors would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Bagnall for her hard work and commitment to Acton school over the past 12 months. Despite Mrs Bagnall leaving Dosbarth Willow, we are extremely pleased that she will continue to support Dosbarth Cherry during our afternoon sessions. We are also pleased to welcome Mrs Wendy O'Grady to our lunchtime team in the junior department. Mrs O'Grady has already been busy supporting in both the lunch hall and outside and we are confident that she will enjoy working with our children.

Earlier this week, we held very successful open days for our prospective parents and carers for our nursery for September 2025. We are looking forward to arranging further visits to school for the children later this academic year.

During this half term, Mrs Williams and Miss Owens will be leading choir club for our junior children. Letters have already been shared with those children that have expressed an interest, and we look forward to being entertained by them later this term. Our My Happy Mind pupil leaders have also been busy. To-date, they have led a whole school assembly and have launched their new initiative aimed at celebrating the children who are showing their character strengths – well done!

After half term, we are looking forward to our Year 5 residential to Robinwood and to our annual Eisteddfod (more details to follow).

Kindest regards

J. Roberts

S. Welch