



# THE FOREST VIEW ACADEMY

LABOR OMNIA VINCIT

## ***Vision***

*Challenging educational orthodoxies so that every child makes good progress in ALL subjects;  
all teachers are committed to personal improvement and fulfil their responsibilities;  
all children receive an 'inspiring' curriculum;  
all academies strive to be outstanding.*

21 April 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to the start of the Summer term at The Forest View Academy. I hope you all enjoyed the Easter break.

## **School Improvement Update – Summer 2023**

In the Spring term we continued to develop as a school and build on our existing strengths.

**We achieved the following:**

### **Teaching and Learning**

In January, alongside the Ofsted team, Mrs Turner-Mitchell and I visited Maths, Phonics and Reading lessons. Our teaching profile is very strong. The main strengths included: evidence of progress in children's books; quality of feedback to children; quality of questioning and level of challenge through the 'starred step'. It was acknowledged that we need to continue in our development of the Computing and PSHE curriculum. Inspectors could see that Computing and PSHE are being taught. However, our long term plans need sequencing to ensure there are no gaps in children's learning. Ofsted (January 2023) stated that '*There is a comprehensive programme of activities to enrich the curriculum, and the curriculum is ambitious and well thought out. Children make good progress and work is suitably pitched to ensure children are challenged at every level*'. Rachel Tordoff – Lead Ofsted Inspector.

### **Self-Evaluation and Governance**

We continue to provide comprehensive training and CPD for all staff. During the Spring term staff completed training linked to Safeguarding – delivered by the local authority. We also focused on provision for children in receipt of pupil premium funding. As Composition is a school priority this year, we delivered more training on the teaching of composition (writing) to ensure our children have regular opportunities to write across a broad range of subjects. Our Early Career teachers (ECTs) continued to access weekly training across the Trust, alongside their daily support from mentors in school. As part of The Forge Trust governance process, I completed a Principal peer review – an opportunity for Principals within the Trust, to meet and review current practise in a different Academy. **We have strong and passionate leaders. Leadership is robust and accountable.**

### **Experiences**

We had an incredibly busy Spring term. We are passionate about providing a broad and balanced curriculum, ensuring the non-negotiables of curriculum expectations are not compromised, but that children experience a variety of learning experiences across their time in school and that their learning is purposeful.

Year 3 visited Mount Cook for their annual residential trip. They also visited Magna Science Adventure centre during Science week before bringing their term to an end with an incredible performance of 'There's a sunflower in my supper'

Year 4 welcomed a visit from Farmer Dan linked to their Science topic: Why we eat? (and what happens to our food?)

Year 5 visited Willersley Castle for the annual residential trip. They also visited the recycling centre as part of their science work on properties and changes of materials.

Year 6 children went to the Holocaust Centre – linked to their work on the World Wars.

Whole school activities this term included a Valentines lunch and disco, a mental health awareness day and World Book Day. We also hosted our first Year 2 transition day for the children joining us in September. We celebrated everything scientific during our Science week; this included a visit from 'Sublime science' who hosted workshops in every year group. In March we welcomed over 80 Mothers and Grandmothers for our Mother's Day cream tea, before seeing the term out in style with our annual Easter Bonnet parade and Easter lunch.

In Sport our Lower Key stage and Upper Key stage athletics teams were both in action along with our Year 5 and Year 6 Dodgeball team. Mr Clarke supported a team of runners at Cross country events at the Dukeries and Berry Hill in Mansfield. League and Trust Football also made a return with a 'top of the table' battle which saw Team FVA come out triumphant. There was also Year 5 and Year 6 Basketball and Tag rugby action and Year 3 and Year 4 Football.

Congratulations to our Musical theatre group who hosted their final performance of the year to parents.

Our Junior Town Council members represented the academy at their scheduled Council meeting at the Town Hall and the Academy Chef and I met with our Academy council to discuss proposed fundraising ideas.

A huge thank you for your support at the Spring Scholastic Book Fair: together we raised over £1000 meaning we can purchase new reading books for the children.

*Our children have continued to have first-hand experiences that link to topics they are learning about in school. Our curriculum ensures children achieve the very best outcomes from their experiences; they use them effectively for their personal, social, physical, cognitive, moral, psychological and emotional development.*

### **Staffing**

At the end of the Spring term we said goodbye to Mrs Cheetham-Blythe who left us to pursue her career in a special school setting and we welcomed Miss Rylatt back from her maternity leave. Miss Rylatt will now teach in Class Malawi, alongside Miss Booth. We also say goodbye to Mrs Dean as her maternity leave commences and we welcomed the return of Mr Ford to Class Portugal.

*Ofsted quoted: 'staff help pupils do their best. Pupils know how staff expect them to behave, there is a strong team spirit' – Rachel Tordoff (Lead Inspector).*

### **Learning Environment**

We continue to maintain and develop our school site in order to provide our children with a calm, nurturing and supportive environment in which they can grow into the best version of themselves. Our Garden Room provides a warm space away from the school building where we deliver social interventions including: Nurture Group, Art Therapy and Lego Therapy. In addition to this space, we have a Sensory Room in school to support children with regulating their emotions.

Our Library (or '*VIP Readers Room*' as the children call it) provides a space for children to immerse themselves in books at lunchtime or when working with Miss Booth our Reading Champion. Children also access this space for 1:1 phonics invention on a daily basis.

Our tree / hedgerow planting continues through Mr Kay and his Year 6 site team who do an incredible job improving and maintaining our school site. Our intention is to host a sponsored event in the Summer term to help raise funds for the Nature garden as work continues in there.

The focus for improvement will then move indoors again as shared / common areas begin their refurbishment.

*When asked by Ofsted Inspectors, the children described the school environment as calm, safe and comforting.*

### **Attendance**

Whole school attendance for the Spring term was 95.8%. Our aim this academic year is 97% attendance, which would represent excellent attendance and punctuality at our academy, compared to other schools and academies nationwide. In order to gain maximum benefit from their education, it is vital that your child/children attend the academy every day. We are constantly trying to improve our attendance so if your child is ill please ensure you phone the academy office on the first day of absence, before 8:45 am, to inform us. If you need any support or advice, please feel free to get in touch with our Pastoral and Safeguarding Lead, Sarah Davison.

There have been significant changes enforced on schools and academies. These include compulsory use of fixed penalty notices for holidays during term time. For more information please refer to our Attendance Policy on our academy website <http://forestviewacademy.co.uk>

We have incentives at Forest View around attendance. Each week, the class with the best attendance will receive a trophy to keep in their classroom; if a class achieves 100% attendance over the week, then the following Friday, the children in that class are allowed to come in non-uniform. Class percentages are displayed in the hall each week. At the end of each term, children with 100% attendance receive a certificate and children with 100% for the whole year are treated to a free trip as a reward!

Ofsted (January 2023) stated: '*children 'love' attending the school, they get on well together, helping and looking after each other*'.

### **Catering**

We run a flexible system in order to give our children the freedom to choose their meal each day, and try new things. As well as a hot meal, children will also have the option of freshly made sandwiches or jacket potatoes each day. Packed lunches from home are stored on trolleys; children do not have access to these until lunch so please ensure that if your child brings their own healthy snack for playtime, that it is not stored in their lunchbox. Alternatively, we run a very popular healthy tuck shop at playtime where children can buy a snack and drink should they wish to. **The Forge Trust catering model ensures all of our children have access to quality meals. Our systems ensure children are encouraged to adopt a healthy lifestyle.**

Dinners are currently £2.30 per day and you can choose the day(s) in which your child would like to have a dinner. As we operate a cashless system, if you wish your child to have a school meal you must log into your child's account (in advance) and pay for the days your child would like a meal. If your child is absent for any reason then the office staff will amend this on the register and you will have the money credited back to their account.

**Please see the Academy office staff if you think your child may be eligible for Free School Meals.**

I have listed a few of our healthy eating rules:

1. Each child should bring either a bottle of water or water with cordial to the academy each day - this bottle should be clearly labelled with their name, and taken home each night to be washed. Children will be allowed to access their drink throughout the day and we offer filtered water in every year group and in the dining room. **Children are not allowed fizzy drinks or energy drinks.**
2. Each child can bring a piece of fruit or a cereal bar for their snack at morning playtime – **not crisps or chocolate.** Children do not have access to their lunchboxes at break time so please ensure they keep their break time snack separate to their lunch.
3. Packed lunches should not contain fizzy drinks or sweets (a small chocolate wafer and one 'packet' item is allowed).

### **Wrap-a-round care**

Breakfast and After School Club: We offer this service to children and families from Forest View and Maun Infants. Access to breakfast club is via the main Year 5/Year 6 playground gate and through the external dining room door. Children will have access to lots of great activities: crafts, board games, art, reading and outdoor games.

Breakfast club runs from 7:30am until 8:45am. Latest entry to breakfast club is 8:15 am so please ensure you drop your child off before then. Parents **MUST** sign their child in so please ensure you drop them off at the door. After-school club runs from 3:30pm until 5:30pm Mon – Thurs and 5pm on a Friday.

Prices: Breakfast club £2.50. Afterschool club £4.50. Access to the full provision, discounted £6.00 per day. Please contact the Academy Office on 01623 860365 for more information, or book direct using the school's online payment system. **Children have access to quality wrap-a-round care as well as a huge variety of extra-curricular clubs throughout the academic year.**



Our academy website address is <http://forestviewacademy.co.uk>



Please follow us on Facebook to keep up-to-date with everything Forest View.

As always, should you wish to contact us you can do in the follow ways:

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| <b>Academy office</b>                                    | 01623 860365<br><a href="mailto:office@forestviewacademy.co.uk">office@forestviewacademy.co.uk</a>                   |
| <b>Principal</b><br>Mrs Harrison                         | 01623 860365<br><a href="mailto:office@forestviewacademy.co.uk">office@forestviewacademy.co.uk</a>                   |
| <b>SENCo</b><br>Mrs McCarthy                             | 07354249836 / 01623 860365<br><a href="mailto:send@forestviewacademy.co.uk">send@forestviewacademy.co.uk</a>         |
| <b>Pastoral &amp; Safeguarding Lead</b><br>Sarah Davison | 07354249836 / 01623 860365<br><a href="mailto:pastoral@forestviewacademy.co.uk">pastoral@forestviewacademy.co.uk</a> |
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| <b>Year 6</b>  | <a href="mailto:year6support@forestviewacademy.co.uk">year6support@forestviewacademy.co.uk</a>                       |

We look forward to another successful summer term at The Forest View Academy.

Mrs R Harrison  
(Principal)

Mr S Ford  
(Assistant Principal)

Mrs R Turner-Mitchell  
(Assistant Principal)



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Principal: Mrs R. Harrison

CEO: Mr L. Hessey (MA Ed (dist), FCCT, NLE)

Chair of Trustees: Mrs S. Trentini