

The Federation of the Church Schools of Shalfleet and Freshwater & Yarmouth

Together for a Brighter Future

5th September 2023

Dear families,

We hope you had a wonderful holiday despite the rain! We couldn't believe that the sun has decided to shine the moment we come back to school. We are very much looking forward to the new term, welcoming back familiar faces and those families who are new to the Federation.

Teachers have been taking the opportunity, over the Summer break, to further improve our curriculum offer and the opportunities for the children. We have a range of enriching, interesting topics for the children to enjoy, complemented by some super trips, visitors and open afternoons. The Events Calendar will be coming out in due course for full details of the curriculum enrichment activities.

This year, we look forward to developing our partnership with our families to better support the children in their learning and lives. Over the next few months, we will be hosting a range of evenings at both schools to present our Curriculum offer, our approaches to teaching English and Maths, as well as embedding our approach to wellbeing through the 'Conscious Community'. We look forward to welcoming you to these events and will provide a webinar option for families who cannot make the dates.

We have also increased the number of parent open sessions, where parents are invited into school to enjoy learning with their children. Please look out for the dates being sent out by individual classes.

We look forward to continuing with our 'Inspire Talks', where we invite inspirational speakers to come and talk about their chosen career paths and show the children the possible futures which could come out of our two small, yet very special, primary schools. We will also welcome back our 'Where Are They Now?' interviews with past pupils which have been a source of inspiration and humour for the children. As ever we remain committed to improving the children's learning experiences as we move forward together.

This year, we are looking to further develop our 'Federation Curriculum', ensuring that it meets the needs of the children in our schools and to support our year 2 and 6 children as they head towards the testing arrangements for 2024. We will keep parents updated as to these changes and the best way to support the children as the year progresses. We are also continuing our Junior Leadership Team and Learning Leaders group, which has been set up successfully across the Federation, to encourage the children to have an in depth understanding of learning and be able to take an active role in improvements across both schools.

Headteacher: Mrs Elizabeth Grainger BEd English (Hons)

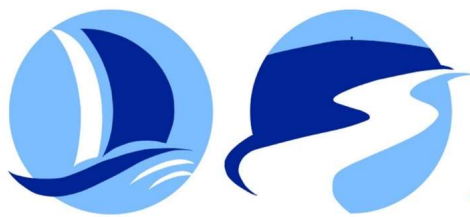
Shalfleet Church of England Primary School,
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In terms of school improvement, the Federation continues to focus on the following 5 main areas:

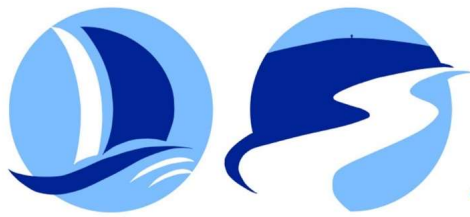
Objective 1 Aspire	Objective 2 Unify	Objective 3 Collaborate	Objective 4 Include	Objective 5 Stabilise
<p>Every child in our Federation has a fantastic education</p> <p>All children receive the highest quality T&L and provision</p> <p>All children receive the highest quality opportunities and life experiences</p>	<p>The future vision of our Federation is committed to and shared by all stakeholders</p>	<p>The Federation works collaboratively with all stakeholders, the wider community other schools, and external agencies to improve the curriculum offer and drive Federation improvement</p>	<p>Ensuring provision meets the needs of all learners</p> <p>Embed the 'Federation Welcome' to everyone entering our schools</p>	<p>The Federation continues to have a reliable staff team confident to drive future improvement</p> <p>Opportunities for future Career Development/CPD</p> <p>A financially sustainable Federation</p>

Once the term gets underway, I would like to invite you to a brief talk to share in more depth the Federation's main focusses going forward – this will also be available on the website. Teachers will also be sending out their topic overview sheets, this will give you a flavour of the topic the children will be completing this half term and give you some ideas as to how you can get involved.

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Staffing

Mrs Westhorpe is the Federation Deputy Headteacher with responsibility for Inclusion, ably supported by Mrs Eggleton, Behaviour and Management and EYFS. Mrs Westhorpe will work closely alongside me to drive Federation improvement.

We are also pleased that our Duty Lead positions will remain in both schools across the Federation. The Duty Leads will drive aspects of Federation improvement and be on call in the absence of the Head teacher and/or Deputy Head teacher to ensure the smooth running of our schools. Mrs Thompson is Shalfleet's Duty Lead and Mr Cook is the Duty Lead at Freshwater & Yarmouth.

We are very excited about the new year, the teams across the Federation and the skills set we have secured. We would be very pleased if you would like to meet new or existing members of staff and would like to invite you to a Meet and Greet session after school on the 12th of September from 3.30pm – 5.00pm. Please do contact the school offices if you would like to book a time slot. This will give the opportunity to come and meet the teachers and ask any questions. Even if your child is going to be taught by the same teacher, please do come in and find out about the topics your child will be enjoying this year.

We would like to take the opportunity to remind you that the newsletter is sent out each week via DOJO and is available to view on the website.

Collective worship

I will be leading Celebration Collective Worship each Friday, in the morning at Freshwater & Yarmouth and in the afternoon at Shalfleet. We will provide further details about Collective Worship in due course. This will give us the opportunity to celebrate the children's achievements and efforts and provide us with the chance to be together as a community. If your child achieves something they are proud of outside of school, please do bring in any certificates or awards and put them in the school office, we would very much like to celebrate all of the children's achievements and praise them for their efforts.

Pick up and drop off reminder:

Shalfleet:

Shalfleet operates a 'Drop Off Scheme' thanks to kind parent volunteers and the excellent leadership of Mrs Blackburn. "Drop-Off Scheme" operates each morning from 8:10am to 8:30am, using the dedicated car pull-in spaces within the school grounds, the children will be greeted and accompanied to the playing field or classroom.

Shalfleet also offer an Early Morning Club from 8.00am which can be booked through Little Explorers.

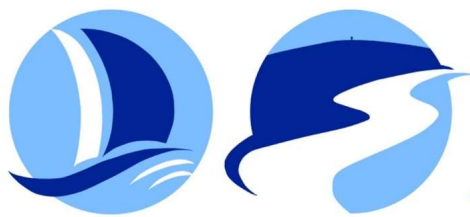
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Yarmouth:

Early Morning Club 8.00am-8.30am. If you are using this service, please book the children a space via the SCOPAY/Tucasi app.

Year 6 children are able to walk home independently provided written permission has been received.

Thank you for taking the time in reading this welcome back letter. Please remember that we committed to providing an enriched learning experience for your child and want to support your family in any way that we can. Please do talk to us if you have any concerns about your child or suggestions that you would like to make. We very much want to work in partnership with you to create a positive school experience for your child and very much look forward to working with you over the coming year.

With warmest regards,

Mrs Grainger
Headteacher

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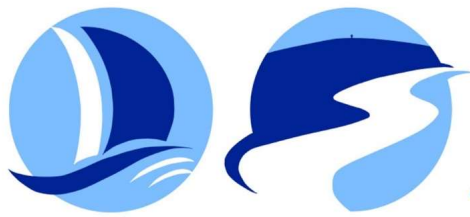
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