



17th February 2022

Dear Parents and carers,

RE: End of half term

It is been a very long and challenging half term since Christmas and I am writing to thank you for your patience. Since coming to Forest Moor, my job is centred around ensuring that rapid improvements can be made at the school. We have done a great deal and I wish to publically thank the staff for all their hard work and for taking on new ways of working. Improvement in any SEMH special school will always be bumpy but I can assure you that it can be seen here and the future is positive.

However, to you as parents, I accept that this must be difficult to see all the time as I know, at present, we are not providing your children with a consistent 5 days a week offer. I accept this is not good enough for our children and the lack of staff frustrates me on a daily basis. I can see light at the end of the tunnel. This week we recruited three more staff who will start as soon as possible and we have more interviews after half term. We won't be at full capacity after half term but I know we will get there over the course of the next month I am sure.

Building improvements

These continue every holiday and this holiday is no exception with new furniture in primary, new benching in the building, improved lighting in the sports hall, a new google virtual meeting room and an improved telephone system being installed. We continue to invest to improve the setting for staff and students.

Staffing changes

On Friday we say goodbye to Paige Topliss who has been brilliant whilst at Forest Moor working with our students in their outdoor education lessons. She has secured a promotion and is moving to the Lake District to continue to deliver Outdoor Education in a new and exciting role. We thank her for all of her work and wish her all the best for the future. Miss Topliss will be replaced by Mr Allan who will be starting as soon as possible after half term.

- Mrs Bowley will become the teacher in B1
- Ms Gilbert will be the permanent TA in K1
- Mr Topper will be the permanent TA in D4
- Mr Deaton will soon become the permanent TA in K3
- Mrs Shaw moves to be the permanent TA in K4
- Mr Roberts, who has been working here this term becomes a full time Deputy Head at Forest Moor
- Mr Butterwood (who has been with us for a few weeks now) is our Positive Regard Consulting supporting with student behaviour and welfare in the school

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We have more interviews after half term when we hope to complete the team. I will update you as the staff team is completed.

I anticipate some continued closures for the next few weeks after half term but expect these to become less frequent during next half term

Yours faithfully



Steve Tighe
Associate Principal

No newsletter this week, but I thought it would be fun to share some photos of our attempt to support the winter Olympics with our version of curling in PE!

