



Jessop Stockwell Federation
Lead Headteacher: Ms A.Parker

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we approach the end of term, with our schools at last open for all children again, we would like to update you on our work and plans.

Firstly, we want to thank you all for your patience and support during what has been a long and challenging time for everyone. The active involvement of parents and carers in helping children to keep up with their schoolwork at home has helped minimise the damage to pupils' education and wellbeing from the pandemic. We know this period has been hard for many families juggling work, caring responsibilities, and supporting their children's online education and we want to acknowledge these immense efforts, again.

In January, with minimal notice, the government ordered all schools in England to close for most pupils. Despite the lack of warning, our schools' creative, energetic and dedicated staff were ready and coped brilliantly. The live teaching our schools were able to offer via digital classrooms during this lockdown was far more extensive than in 2020 and significantly more advanced than in many similar primaries. Recorded lessons meant that any pupils unable to make the live sessions were still able to continue their learning. We are sure you will join us in thanking all the staff for making this work so well.

Online learning is just one area in which Jessop, Stockwell and Bonneville schools have benefited from working together as a partnership under Ms Parker as lead headteacher. We are keen to explore what further opportunities there may be to build on these new ways of digital teaching to support and enrich conventional classroom experiences in future.

As governors we have continued to hold meetings via video conferencing throughout the pandemic, and kept up to date with developments via Ms Parker, Mr Morton and Mr Baffoe. So far this term we have focused some of our discussions on children's wellbeing and engagement — two key concerns for us at all times, but especially during lockdown, when many have felt isolated.

While the difficulties are clear to parents and teachers alike, it was encouraging to see data showing high levels of engagement from children with their online learning, as well as the positive verdicts of parents in survey responses, with over 80% saying they would recommend our schools to others.

Despite these successes, there remain hurdles ahead. As Ms Parker said when she wrote to parents in February explaining our staff restructuring consultation, the funding context for schools across Lambeth and more widely in London is tough. The outlook for the pandemic is also still uncertain.

Yet working as a partnership has helped all three schools to support each other in many areas, from developing the curriculum to leadership, pastoral care, and resourcing. With strong professional bonds now embedded across the group, and the continued backing of parents, we are sure our schools will thrive as places where children are healthy, happy and safe, achieve high standards and develop a love of learning.

With best wishes, and thanks again,

The Board of Governors.



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