



Headteacher : Dr Simon Letman BA, MA, EdD
Deputy Head : Nicola Shelley

9th February 2015

Dear Parent/Carer,

Parent Forum

I wrote to you on 12th January to say that I intended to revive the Holbrook Academy Parent Forum and that I would welcome expressions of interest in becoming a member of a new steering group. The role of the group would be to work with me and other staff in the planning and organisation of events and to act as points of contact for parents who would like to feed ideas into the system.

I am pleased to say that I received a very positive response to my request, with seven parents offering to support the initiative. These are:

Trisha Byford (daughter in Year 7)
Louise Cullen (daughters in Years 8, 10 and 11)
Jan Derry (son in Year 11)
Chris Graham (daughter in Year 7)
Paul Henry (son in Year 9)
Dave Marsh (son in Year 7)
Caroline Radley (daughter in Year 9 and son in Year 11)

Five of us were able to meet last week to discuss how we should organise the first of the new programme of forums which will take place between 7:00pm and 8:15pm on Wednesday 25th February in the main hall. We then went on to talk about and the topics we thought parents would like covered in future meetings.

In the time we have available, we agreed that four things should be covered on 25th February. These are:

- **‘Where are we now and future plans for the Academy?’** – a presentation by the Head on our current situation, both in relation to Ofsted and the wider context. This will incorporate plans for developing the Academy over the next few years. The session will include time for questions and answers.
- **‘What do you think?’** – an opportunity for parents to contribute thoughts about the areas where things are going well from their point of view and where there are concerns. Some of these points will be addressed on the night with there being a more considered response to all parents from Senior Staff following proper analysis.
- **‘Communication’** – a discussion in groups focusing on the Academy’s current approach to communicating with parents and ways of improving things still further.
- **‘The Friends of Holbrook Academy (FHA)’** – a brief update on the work of the FHA in terms of fundraising and how to get involved to support projects.

We hope that analysis of the **'What do you think?'** ideas will give rise to main topics for subsequent meetings. At the moment we anticipate that ideas will focus around areas such as 'homework', 'transport', 'uniform', 'Go4Schools' etc. We also anticipate that parents will wish to see examples (displays) of work and hear from key staff with responsibilities in areas like literacy, enrichment, supporting the more able, learning support and so on.

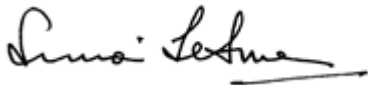
We do hope you will be able to join us on 25th February for what promises to be an interesting and thought-provoking evening. In the meantime, or if you are unable to attend, I would encourage you to make contact with any of the members of the steering group to contribute ideas/thoughts via the dedicated email address:-

parentforum@holbrookacademy.org

A number of reminders will be issued before the event about timings and location.

I look forward to seeing you on the evening.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Simon Letman", with a horizontal line underneath the name.

Dr Simon Letman