



# ST. PATRICK'S

## CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL

Hullenedge Road, Elland, West Yorkshire HX5 0QY

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"LIVE, LEARN, LOVE WITH CHRIST"

15 February 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been an exceptionally busy and productive first half-term for me here at St Patrick's. Thank you all for your warm welcome and views about school. I have been able to work with children, staff, governors and families to really understand the strengths and areas for development in school. My focus is to provide the children at St Patrick's with the very best learning opportunities in every lesson.

We have a number of improvements to make to the quality of the teaching and learning at St Patrick's and I am very excited to launch our 6 priorities for the next term. All staff and governors in school will be ensuring that the following priorities are at the forefront of our work as school leaders in the next term at school.

1. To improve the quality of writing across school
2. To improve the assessment procedures across school so teachers can ensure rapid progress for all children
3. To review the curriculum to ensure it engages and excites children to learn.
4. To ensure the leadership of the school at all levels is good.
5. To develop children's behaviour for learning so they are engaged more in all learning activities.
6. To improve the homework and reading book system across school to provide more challenging and interesting opportunities for family learning.

Some of the classes have not had continuity of teaching so far this year due to unavoidable staff absence and we recognise that this has impacted on the progress of some children in school. We are working hard to deploy our teachers appropriately to respond to the needs of our children at this time. Therefore next term you may see some changes to the teachers and support assistants your children have within school and we will work hard to ensure that the rest of the year has minimal disruptions to children. Whilst we understand that a change in teacher or support assistant can be

unsettling for children, we are committed to ensuring that all classes have the highest quality teaching and learning. We will ensure that any changes are only made if absolutely necessary.

I will hold another headteacher forum on the 28<sup>th</sup> February 2018 and welcome parents and carers to join me to find out more about our school improvement plan. These will be held at 10am, 2pm and 5pm. Please let the admin team know if you wish to come along so we can prepare refreshments.

Tomorrow our half term holiday begins for families and children. It is a training day for staff and we will be working together redesigning and planning to improve our curriculum and the quality of our lesson, particularly in English and Maths.

I wish you all a safe, happy and energising break over half term and I look forward to welcoming all children back to school on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February 2018. Please remember that PE Kit is essential for all children (including pumps) as we are working hard to ensure ALL children are regularly participating in our full school curriculum.

Kind regards and God Bless,

Mrs L Lomas