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Friday 26th May 2023

Lightyear Federation Summer Update: Change to School Day – Subject Specialists – Your Views

Dear Families,

Our summer updates on Lightyear Federation news for Greatstone and Repton Manor Primary Schools. Please do not hesitate to contact me directly though should you wish to speak to me. exehead@lightyear.kent.sch.uk or contact either school and address for my attention.

Mr Terry Wells

A heartfelt thanks to all the families that contributed donations and memories for Repton Manor's Site Manager, Terry who sadly passed away. Thank you also to the children, staff, governors and families who attended the celebration of his life at Repton Manor on Thursday. His family have been overwhelmed by the love and care you have all shown.

Change to School Day – September 2023

Thank you to all of those who completed the survey regarding our change of school day times to meet statutory requirements. There was a clear majority of parents and employees who wished to start the new timings from the new academic year. A mixture of responses evenly split to adding the timings to the start or end of the day, or splitting the difference. Considering this and the implications for contracts and staffing changes we have decided to mirror the traditional timings of most schools.

From Monday 4th September 2023 - The school gates will open at 8.30am and close at 8.45am. The school day will begin at 8.45am and children arriving after this time will have to enter the school office and will be recorded as late. **From Monday September 4th, pick up and gates open at 3.15pm.** We will write to remind you of this on Friday 1st September in preparation for the first day back for children – Monday 4th September. Children attending clubs before or after school and children who will be transitioning in to school for the first time will receive additional communication before the end of July.

Subject Specialists

We are delighted that we have now recruited our specialist staff members in the arts, sports and natural world education. From September your children will be regularly engaged with learning offered by our specialists in their areas of expertise and our teachers will be working with them next term in preparation for next academic year in planning some very exciting and ambitious learning experiences that we will be sharing with you. Your child's teacher will update you throughout next year about these and other opportunities after the school day in extra-curricular clubs.

Your Views

Staff and Governors from both schools will be gathering together to plan our priorities and development of your child's school on Friday 30th June. We all have ideas about how our schools should improve but we would like your views in preparation for this. I know how difficult questionnaires and communication can be as busy families. With this in mind I would like to send you all just a 2 question review. Please do reply if you can spare 2-3 minutes before our planning day with your view of your child's school where we will decide how to direct resources, energy and training.

1. The school's strength 2. Top priority you would like the school to address. The link is below:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/2228QGT>

Kind regards

Matt Rawling