

Thursday 11th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to welcome you all back to school and to wish you a very Happy New Year! This year we welcome some new staff members to the Ninestiles Academy Trust family and see some of our key staff move into exciting Trust wide roles.

Joe Jennings joins us as Principal of Yarnfield Primary Academy and Mark Court joins us as Principal of The Oaklands Primary Academy. Additionally, Rena Ali joins us as Vice Principal at Yarnfield Primary Academy. We would like to welcome Joe, Rena and Mark and wish them success in their new roles. At a Trust level, Carol Phillips moves to her new role as Trust Principal, supporting all four Primary Academies as well as leading some key developments in our teaching of reading and in developing an exciting and rich Ninestiles Primary Curriculum. Jayne Smith moves into her role as Trust Maths Director and will support our Primary Academies to further develop the teaching of mathematics.

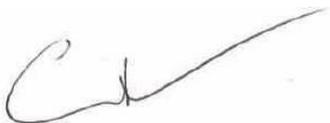
We know that developing pupils' skills, knowledge and understanding in mathematics is vital for their success in the next stage of their education and a crucial factor in adult life. To enable the further development of Mathematics, the Trust has granted each Primary Academy an additional training day for specific mathematics training to be given to staff. As such, Yarnfield, The Oaklands and Pegasus Primary Academies will all be closing for a training day on **Monday 12th February 2018**. The schools will be closed to all pupils in all years from Nursery/Reception up to Year 5. **They will remain open for all Y6 pupils who will need to ensure that they attend.**

The date for training at Erdington Hall will be later in the term after the half term break. This will be communicated with you as soon as it has been finalised.

I fully appreciate, as a parent, the training days can present childcare issues for many families who have work commitments. I know that you share our determination to continue to raise standards, particularly in maths, in our schools. Rest assured that your children will benefit enormously from the training that teachers will undertake this year.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and support.

Yours sincerely,



Catherine Anwar
CEO
Ninestiles Academy Trust