FLOURISH FEDERATION

Executive Headteacher: Carol Jeary

Newsletter: week beginning October 5th 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am delighted that I have been appointed as the Substantive Executive Headteacher of Flourish Federation. I am committed to building on the strong foundations we have established and continuing to drive excellence across our provision.

As we have settled into the Autumn Term, it has been wonderful to see our pupils return with enthusiasm and readiness to engage in their learning. The transition back to school has been smooth for most, and our pupils have demonstrated positive attitudes towards their studies and their peers. This positive start to the term reflects the supportive environment we have worked hard to cultivate across the schools. I was particularly pleased to see almost 100% of pupils at both schools in the correct school uniform and PE kit. Both schools have preloved clothes available for children to wear and no donation is needed for these so if you are struggling with school uniforms please look here.

During the summer term we sent out a questionnaire on communication. We are looking at how we can address the issues many of you reported around receiving emails.

In the next couple of weeks we will be sending out questionnaires for our new reception parents to feed back on the transition arrangements. Please keep an eye on your inbox as this feedback will help with arrangements in the future.

Over recent weeks, most of our year groups have undertaken assessments and tests. I recognise that testing can feel somewhat uncomfortable for both pupils and parents, and I want to take this opportunity to explain why these assessments form an important part of our educational approach. Whilst we understand that children develop in numerous ways and at different rates, assessments provide us with valuable insights into where

DIARY DATES

Term dates - Autumn term 3rd September – 18th December.

(Half term 23rd - -30th October)

Parent Teacher Meetings –

Wednesday 7th October - until 7pm – both schools

Thursday 8th October -until 5pm – Stibbard All Saints only

Christmas Week

wb 14th December) including productions and Christmas lunch and jumper day

New intake open afternoons/evenings (Reception 2026)

4th November, North Elmham

5th November All Saints Stibbard

individual pupils are in their learning journey. They help us to identify any gaps in knowledge or understanding, which in turn allows us to pitch our teaching and learning at an appropriate level for each class. Beyond the academic purpose, these assessments also help our pupils develop resilience and the ability to manage challenging situations with composure and determination, in a supportive environment. These are important life skills that will serve them well as they progress through their education and beyond.

The data we gather from these assessments is analysed carefully by our teaching teams, and this information directly informs our planning and provision going forward. We are committed to ensuring that every pupil receives the support and challenge they need to make progress, and these assessments are a key tool in achieving this goal. We will continue to keep parents informed about their child's progress through our regular communication channels, and we welcome any conversations you may wish to have about your child's learning. This week there are parent's evenings in both schools, an ideal time to discuss any concerns you may have. The focus for the evenings is how your child has settled into their class and their attitudes for learning.

Mrs Otty or myself will be available at school during the parent's evenings if you wish to discuss anything with us.

I would also like to draw your attention to the use of our play equipment at Stibbard. Before and after school, children are not to use the play equipment. This is an important safeguarding measure, and we ask for your cooperation in ensuring that pupils understand and adhere to this expectation. If your child is collected at the end of the day, please ensure they do not access the play equipment during this time. We appreciate your support in maintaining the safety of our school environment.

As we move forward into the remainder of the Autumn Term, I am looking forward to continuing our work with pupils, staff, and families to ensure that Flourish remains a place where all pupils can thrive and achieve. I am grateful for the support and cooperation we receive from our school community, and I am excited about the opportunities that lie ahead.

Thank you for your continued engagement with our schools. Should you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Carol Jeary