



## **PARENTS NEWSLETTER SEPTEMBER 2015**

What a pleasure it was yesterday to welcome your children back to Granta. The whole school ran very smoothly, with pupils responding very well to changes of class and in some cases, transition across departments. I spent the entire day seeing nothing but smiling pupils and equally happy staff and it reminded me what a very special place I am lucky enough to lead.

### **Exam results**

We had some very pleasing exam results this summer. As a group our oldest pupils achieved life and living skill modules, results in English, Maths, Science and ICT, Jamie Oliver cooking course certificates and bronze, silver and gold Duke of Edinburgh awards. Most of our leavers have gone on to college: to West Suffolk College, Cambridgeshire Regional College, College of West Anglia and Huntingdon. Very well done to them all and I know that our leaver and certificate assemblies are a source of great inspiration to our younger pupils.

### **School site**

We have had a significant amount of work carried out on our school building over the summer as well as our usual cleaning schedules and hosting two play schemes (one for Action for Children and one for Cambridgeshire Joint Play Schemes.) I hope you will approve that we have installed solar panels to help reduce our costs and carbon footprint and these will help with lighting within the school and with heating our pool water. We now have wifi throughout the school which will greatly help our ICT provision in lessons.

### **New pupils**

A big Granta welcome to our following new pupils: Tom and Kit in 6<sup>th</sup> form, Nadia and Ben in KS3, Tiana in KS2 and Van, Danny, Isaac, Ella Mae and Benjamin in Early Years.

### **New staff**

Welcome also to Katie Black, newly qualified teacher in Primary and to Stephanie, a newly qualified teacher who joined us last year and who is leading her own class this term. Both are wonderful additions to our teaching team.

### **School meal charges**

In line with county council increases, I am afraid our lunch meal costs are increasing slightly to £2.25 per meal for Primary and £2.35 per meal for Secondary. These changes will take

effect from Monday 21 September. I believe that our school meal service represents excellent value for money and every day the catering team provide a wide range of meals to meet tastes, preferences and dietary requirements. I encourage all families to consider making use of this service and Alysia, head cook, would be happy to discuss requirements with you. She can be contacted via the school office on 01223 896890

**Finally, a message from Pinpoint:**

Pinpoint have organised sessions for parents run by DHIVERSE about discussing sex and relationships with young people (14 – 25) with additional needs or disabilities.

These sessions have been organised in response to parents saying it's an area they would appreciate support with. You can access further information from:

<http://www.pinpoint-cambs.org.uk/sites/default/files/PfASexHelSeptseptflyerFINAL.pdf>

There are 3 sessions available – 18 September, 30 September and 5 October around the county and they are 2 hours long.

Lucie Calow