



Newsletter

The White Hills Park Trust

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Welcome to a New School Year

Welcome back to a new school year. After all the discussion and planning, it has been very special to have our staff and pupils back in school, positive and ready to learn. Despite some inevitable and understandable nerves, the atmosphere has been calm and positive. Over the summer, it was sometimes difficult to keep pace with the changing guidance and instructions, whilst at the same time thinking how they would apply in the context of each individual school. As I'm sure you will appreciate, we have worked hard to make sure that we are fully prepared, and that we have put measures in place that reduce risk as much as possible whilst allowing us to deliver a full curriculum. New routines and safety measures are in place and although they will take a little getting used to, everyone is doing their best to stay safe and follow the instructions.

As I wrote in the Newsletter at the end of last term, this week is particularly important for us because we have now welcomed a new school to the White Hills Park Trust. The Florence Nightingale Academy in Eastwood is the latest school to join our partnership and our first primary. It was wonderful to be alongside Mrs Sainsbury, Mrs Baxter and the team as they welcomed the children back into school on Wednesday, and exciting to see the school feature as the main item on [BBC East Midlands Today](#), celebrating the start of the school's new chapter. I'd like to extend a very warm welcome to the children and families of The Florence Nightingale Academy – you are joining a highly successful and positive Multi Academy Trust, which will only be strengthened by your involvement.



At this time of year, I would normally be sharing our exam results with parents and giving you our initial analysis – obviously this year has been very different. The chaotic situation that led to A level results being awarded and then recalculated, and the uncertainty over GCSE results made for a very stressful and uncertain time for students, teachers and families. We do not have any reliable way of measuring our outcomes against a national picture or of assessing progress compared to other schools. However, that does not mean that the results that our students received have no value – having seen how diligently and rigorously our teachers went about the process of allocating Centre Assessed Grades, I am confident that they reflect the real achievement of our students, and are reward for their hard work.

Given the very positive picture of achievement that we have now established in all three of our Trust schools, it is frustrating that we do not have results we can share and celebrate in the normal way, but we all understand the reasons. I can reassure parents that our robust internal assessment shows clearly that standards in all of our schools continue to be very strong and improving, and I would like to congratulate all the Year 6, Year 11 and Year 13 pupils who worked so hard during their time in our schools.

Dr. Paul Heery
Chief Executive Officer