



## TPA Christmas Newsletter – Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2022



### Christmas Community Meal Events

It has been absolutely fantastic to be able to reinstate our Christmas Community Meals after a two-year absence due to the pandemic. It's our Head Teachers' and staff's favourite event, due to the joy it brings to our pupils and their families; it has been amazing to see so many happy faces and we hope we have helped bring just a little Christmas joy to you all. We would like to take this opportunity to thank all of our wonderful staff and Nourish Contract Catering who worked so hard to put these special community events on.



### Christmas Celebrations

Across our schools, many special Christmas celebrations and events are taking place, from pantomimes, Christmas Lunch, children's parties, nativity shows and even visits from Rudolph and his friends organised by our schools along with our hardworking Parent/Teacher Associations. I hope all the children, parents/carers, family and friends have enjoyed them as much as I used to when I was a Head Teacher, and my own children were that age (many years ago now!).



### TPA Annual Teacher Conference

On 1<sup>st</sup> November, for the first time for a couple of years, all our teachers were able to come together in one place! No more zoom – no more blended approach to our conference – it was fabulous to have our incredibly hardworking teachers altogether again in one place. Our focus this year was reaffirming the importance of the teacher's job to inspire and the need to continue focussing on 'Character Education', which aims to instil key characteristics and values such as resilience, honesty, motivation and humility, all of which will help children in their adult lives.

### Energy Saving

Prior to the recent announcement from the Government about additional funding to make schools more energy efficient, the Trust Board had already committed £135,000 for improvement works. Key schools were identified for the capital investment and new LED lights, PIRs (passive infrared sensor) and radiator thermostats have been installed. With the new funding stream announced last week, we will now upgrade the remaining schools to significantly assist in reducing our carbon footprint and therefore reduce our energy use.

## TPA Pioneer Projects – Virtual Reality Headsets

This year we are trialling the use of VR Headsets in three of our schools. These units are used to support teachers in delivering exciting learning opportunities – enabling pupils to ‘walk on the moon’ or ‘swim with sharks’!



## Edenbridge Primary School – Ofsted

It is with great delight that we are able to share with you the fantastic news, that after a recent Ofsted Inspection, Edenbridge Primary School is now graded as ‘Good’ in all categories. The school joined TPA in September 2018 after being judged as ‘inadequate’ by Ofsted in 2017. It is testament to all the staff, governors, parents and children, who have worked so hard as one team, to get this fantastic result for their community.

We’re sure you will join us in wishing Miss Butcher, the Head Teacher at Edenbridge, the very best in her new educational opportunities that she is about to embark upon and thank her for everything she has given to TPA over the years – thank you Miss Butcher.

## Christmas Message

We would like to wish you all a safe, happy Christmas break. As we all know, these are particularly difficult times for many people across our communities. If you are experiencing any hardship, please speak to your school leaders, who will be able to support you or signpost you to an organisation that can help. Our schools are at the heart of our communities; please do not feel isolated, we are all here to serve and support you.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Lee Mason'.

Lee Mason – Ellis  
CEO

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Richard Lockyer'.

Richard Lockyer  
Chair of the Trust Board