

Welcome to the SECAT Newsletter for Spring 2021

One hundred or more for Sir Captain Tom Moore!



What can you do??

With the sad passing of the incredible and inspiring Sir Captain Tom Moore, someone who despite challenges valued the importance of physical activity and raised millions for charity, we challenge you to continue his legacy by completing 100 of something. You can choose a 100 challenge that best suits you...

You can have a go as many times as you like, challenging yourself to something different each time.

It could be 100 family miles in a month, 100 laps of your track, 100 metres of hopping, 100 minutes of jumping on a trampoline, 100 keepy ups with a bat and ball, 100 keepy ups with a ball... think creatively maybe you could wear fancy dress whilst completing your challenge.

However you decide to challenge yourself, please challenge your friends families, or teachers on social media tagging your school and us @SouthendWestSSP & @SouthendSSP and show us how you get on!

If you would then like to donate to Tom's charity, you can donate here: Donate — The Captain Tom Foundation

Please note, there is no obligation to donate, you can take part without having to donate

Thank you Captain Sir Tom. Because of you tomorrow will be a good day for so many more



Welcome to the first newsletter of 2021. A difficult start to the year, to be sure, but we have a positive spirit!

Thank you to all the parents and carers who responded to the survey the Trust Board sent out asking for your feedback in respect of the new mission, vision and values for our Trust as we move onwards. 83.1% of you thought that the new mission statement reflected our schools. 75.76% of you liked the new ethos or values statement and 76.85% of you thought the new mission and values statement would support the local community.

Your views will go back to the Trust Board, who are meeting at the beginning of February 2021 for final discussion and amendment/approval. Thank you all!

I said in the last newsletter that the Trust would be working on the revised MAT Strategic Plan. This is well underway and will give us our plans and aims for the next 3 to 5 years. This document will set out what the Trust Board want to achieve and once approved, it will be handed over to our CEO, COO and Central Team for them to implement. The final version of the MAT Strategic Plan is approved by the Trust Board and we are aiming for the meeting in February 2021 to do this. It will be published on the SECAT website and available for all to see. I will make sure there are the links to it in the newsletter after it as been approved.

Lastly, I want to say a big thank you to our professional staff, both educators and support staff. Our staff are our biggest asset, helping us deliver the outcomes for our pupils, who are at the heart of everything for us. These are trying times but with a positive, 'can-do' attitude, we can pull together as the family of schools that we are, support each other and be fantastic.



Karen Dovaston
Chair of Trust Board

This was not the start to 2021 that we had hoped, although many of us and you will have half expected it. It is particularly hard on children and we are working very closely with you all to try to manage the impact on both their learning and their mental health.

I know from the many positive comments, emails and letters that you have sent to the Headteachers, that you are very pleased with the remote learning that is happening in all schools. Whilst this takes considerable time to get ready each day, it is always rewarding when parents and the children, are appreciative and enjoy learning albeit in a different way to how they normally do.

I would like to say a big 'thank you' to all of the Staff Advocates, Curriculum Strategy Group Leaders and Wellbeing Colleagues. We have all met now at least once if not twice since the start of these groups. The feedback that they are gathering from the staff is helping shape our future actions and plans. I am very much looking forward to the next meeting with the Pupil Advocates after half term.

I am delighted to 'formally' welcome Miss Money Penny in her new role as the Headteacher of Richmond Avenue Primary School and Nursery, and of course to Miss Champney who has been appointed as Acting Headteacher of Thorpedene Primary following Miss Walsh's appointment as Interim Director Of Education. All three have had many messages of support and congratulations from you all. Thank you.



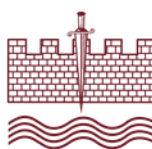
Ruth Brock
Chief Executive Officer



Bournes Green Infant School



Looking after our wellbeing and mental health is vitally important and even more so during this difficult time. As part of Children's Mental Health Week, we have encouraged our children and families to take some time out to do something to positively impact their mental health and wellbeing. Some ideas we shared were virtually catching up with friends, spending time outdoors, cooking and eating a healthy meal, exercising and playing games. We also encouraged families to take part in the RSPB big garden birdwatch weekend. It was wonderful to hear about the lovely things that families did and to see some photos of the children getting involved in different activities.



Bournes Green Junior School



FOOTY STARS AT BGJS



Like all of our SECAT schools, we are missing our normal approach to sport here at BGJS. Over the past 5 years, we have embedded systems that allow so many of our children to feel the pride of putting on a kit and representing our school throughout a normal academic year. Regardless of experience and confidence, we love giving our children opportunities to experience new things, to push and challenge themselves and sport is a brilliant tool for this.

Despite being in the middle of another lockdown, it may be time for Harry Kane, Marcus Rashford and co. to move aside as we now have three of our talented boys who are contracted to professional football clubs.

Following successful, lengthy and challenging trial periods, West Ham United have signed James and George, whilst Colchester United have signed Victor from our school.

Huge congratulations to the boys for their achievements so far. We are all very proud of you!

We look forward to hearing how your progress continues to develop over the coming years.





CELEBRATION



I am delighted to be appointed as Acting Headteacher of Thorpedene Primary School for a year. I feel privileged to be given the opportunity to work with such a wonderful staff team, parent body, academy committee, local community and, of course, children. I will continue to be ably supported by two acting Deputy Headteachers – Mrs Cade and Mrs Seymour, both experienced leaders and teachers.



Steph Champney Acting Headteacher
Thorpedene Primary School

Over the last 4 and a half years, as Deputy Head, I have worked closely with the community and local schools, in particular those in SECAT and have developed strong relationships with staff across the MAT. I am looking forward to developing these further with even more staff in the schools in my new role to ensure that we continue to work cooperatively and collaboratively with the most important people in the forefront of our minds - our children!

I am determined to ensure that everyone in our school continues to succeed in a supportive learning environment based on the school core values of Achieving, Caring, Respecting with Confidence.

My philosophy for education is simple: children learn better when they are happy. As Acting Headteacher I will ensure that we continue to put the best interests of every child at the heart of all our decisions, and that we continue to work tirelessly to ensure that every child is nurtured and challenged to achieve their true potential and pursue their dreams.

I am very happy to have been seconded to the role of Director of Education as I am one of the original Headteachers that joined SECAT at its conception in 2016. I have always been passionate about our local schools working together to improve the educational outcomes and experience for pupils across our community.

I have more than 20 years' experience of successful Senior Leadership in various school settings. I have developed and implemented a range of strategic and operational changes in the schools in which I have been employed. I have also supported school improvement in numerous schools across Southend throughout my career.



Shelley Walsh
Director of Education

In recent years, I have undertaken various roles across SECAT. Initially leading on both English and Maths, which supported the development and implementation of the strategic vision of the trust. Over the last 18 months I have supported leadership in both Hinguar Primary School and Richmond Avenue Primary School until they had substantive Headteachers in post.

I am looking forward to starting my new role and continuing my professional journey within SECAT and our community.



Richmond Avenue Primary School

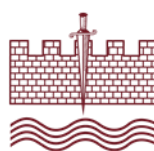
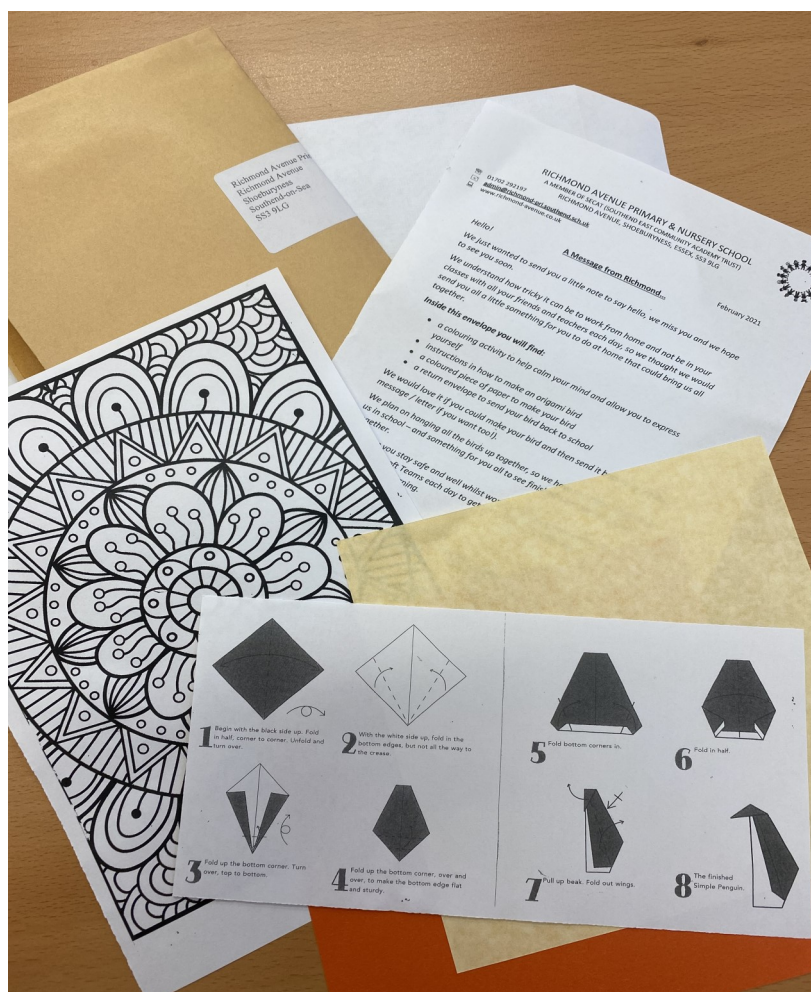


At the start of February, it is Children's Mental Health Week. In the current climate, it is more important than ever to ensure that we support all families and children in such strange and unsettling times.

To help keep the 'link' with our families and stay in contact as the Richmond family/Team, we have sent out a little something to every child who is working from home.

In the envelope we have sent a little message from school, a mindfulness colouring activity, some origami paper and instructions of how to make a simple bird.

We have also included a return envelope for the children to send their bird back to school and when they all come back, we will be hanging them all together to create an installation that is made by all the children and staff at the school. Firstly to remind us we are all together in this together and secondly when we do all come back together to have something to greet us all.



Shoeburyness High School



Shoeburyness High School was very proud to be named in the National School Sports Magazine's top 200 sporting schools for the country. We place 128 in this ranking which is based on positions gained across various regional and national sporting competitions; only one other Southend school made it into this group. We have invested heavily in PE over many years as success in this area can impact on motivation across the curriculum. The strength and reputation of our PE department is mirrored by that of the Southend East School Sports Partnership for which Shoeburyness High School is the hub school. Most recently they have secured £50,000 of funding to support wellbeing projects across Southend Schools.

Top 200 sporting schools of 2020		
31 Belling's Stamford High School	90 St Peter's Catholic HS, Manchester	148 Uppingham School, Rutland
32 Wright Robinson College, Sunderland	91 Tarnham School, Norfolk	149 All Saints Catholic School, Huddersfield
33 Woodhouse Grove School, Leeds	92 Queens College, London	150 Sharncliffe College, Wakefield
34 Bedford School, Bedford	93 Dorset School, Dorset	151 Cheltenham College, Gloucestershire
35 Northampton School for Boys, Northampton	94 St Helen & St Katherine School, Liverpool	152 St Albans School, Hertfordshire
36 RGS Newcastle, Newcastle	95 St Peter's School, York	153 Broadfield Henry Fusard School, London
37 King's College Tipton, Tipton	96 Stonyhurst School, Lancashire	154 Farnborough Hill School, Hampshire
38 Kingston Grammar School, Kingston	97 Salford High School, Greater Manchester	155 Grosvenor Kingshill School, Cheshire
39 St Bonaventure's School, London	98 Salford High School, Greater Manchester	156 Winton College, London
40 Canford School, Dorset	99 RGS Guildford, Surrey	157 St Andrew's College, London
41 Barking Abbey School, Essex	100 Prior Park College, Bath	158 RGS Worcester, Worcestershire
42 Beaumont School for Girls, London	101 London Academy, London	159 Headington School, Oxford
43 Queens School, Walsford	102 Christ's School, Richmond	160 Southend High School for Boys, Essex
44 Quorn School, Leicestershire	103 Bradford GS, West Yorkshire	161 Malmesbury School, Wiltshire
45 Quorn School, Leicestershire	104 Epsom Park School, Surrey	162 Northampton HS, Northampton
46 George Spencer Academy, Leicestershire	105 Hayes School, London	163 South Wilton Grammar School, Lincolnshire
47 John Wilson's Grammar, Leeds	106 Grange School, Leicestershire	164 Gray City Academy, Lincolnshire
48 Tost HSE School, Nottingham	107 James Allen's Girls School, London	165 Cusworth School, Yorkshire
49 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	108 Cusworth Heath School, Yorkshire	166 St Paul's School, London
50 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	109 Parnham Grammar School, Dorset	167 Wycombe High School, Buckinghamshire
51 John Wilson's Grammar, Leeds	110 Trinity School, Croydon	168 Peter Symonds College, Winchester
52 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	111 Farnham School, Surrey	169 Durham School, Durham
53 John Wilson's Grammar, Leeds	112 Woodlands School, Leicestershire	170 Brinsford High School, Lancashire
54 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	113 Farnham School, Surrey	171 St Thomas' Boys' School, London
55 County Vigner School, Leicestershire	114 Brinsford High School, Lancashire	172 Reading Blue Coat School, Berkshire
56 John Wilson's Grammar, Leeds	115 St Mary's College, Hull	173 St Thomas' School, London
57 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	116 Dunelm School, Yorkshire	174 St Peter's Catholic HS, Gloucester
58 Walsingham College, Norfolk	117 Ardingly College, Sussex	175 King Edward's School, Birmingham
59 St Peter's Catholic School, Southall	118 Walsingham HS, Norfolk	176 Ashby's School, Leicestershire
60 Mount Kelly, Leicestershire	119 Churston's College, Devon	177 Tarnaby Boys GS, Yorkshire
61 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	120 Penistone GS, Yorkshire	178 Tarnaby Boys GS, Yorkshire
62 Queen Elizabeth's College, London	121 Chesham Valley School, Buckinghamshire	179 Rye School, East Sussex
63 Woodhouse Grove School, Leeds	122 Woodbridge School, Suffolk	180 Wood Green Academy, London
64 Chesham College, Buckinghamshire	123 Wetherby School, Yorkshire	181 St George's School, Oxford
65 Brook House College, Leicestershire	124 St George's College, Weybridge	182 Dame Alice's School, London
66 Hargreaves Academy, Leicestershire	125 Hargreaves College, Leicestershire	183 Yarns School, London
67 Epsom Girls' School, Surrey	126 Tost HSE School, Nottingham	184 Farnborough HS, Hampshire
68 Walsingham College, Norfolk	127 Shoeburyness HS, Essex	185 St John's HS, Hampshire
69 Epsom Girls' School, Surrey	128 Shoeburyness HS, Essex	186 Winton College, London
70 Walsingham College, Norfolk	129 Shoeburyness HS, Essex	187 St Albans School, Hertfordshire
71 St Francis Xavier's College, London	130 Richard Heath College, London	188 King's School, Worcester
72 Ashurst School, Leicestershire	131 Beaumont College, Leicestershire	189 Dame Alice's School, London
73 Ashurst School, Leicestershire	132 Richard Heath College, London	190 Eastwood Academy, London
74 Telford Heath School, Leicestershire	133 New Hall School, Leicestershire	191 Culford School, Suffolk
75 Telford Heath School, Leicestershire	134 Hymers College, Leicestershire	192 Thaxted St Andrew School, Essex
76 Telford Heath School, Leicestershire	135 Walsingham County GS, Norfolk	193 St Albans School, Hertfordshire
77 Grammar School at Louth, Lincolnshire	136 Ashby School, Leicestershire	194 King's College School, London
78 Conquest Company & Co, Leicestershire	137 Lutterworth GS, Leicestershire	195 Lutterworth Upper School, Leicestershire
79 QPS Walsingham, Leicestershire	138 Bishop Walsingham School, Norfolk	196 St Albans School, Hertfordshire
80 Conquest Company & Co, Leicestershire	139 Hargreaves College School, Oxford	197 Lutterworth Upper School, Leicestershire
81 Bedford Girls' School, Bedfordshire	140 Walsingham Hall School, Norfolk	198 John Hampden GS, London
82 Hargreaves Grammar School, Leicestershire	141 Hargreaves College, Leicestershire	199 St Albans School, Hertfordshire
83 Wilson's School, Leicestershire	142 Winton GS for Girls, London	200 Altonham GS for Boys, Leicestershire
84 Bude's School, Leicestershire	143 Hymers College, Leicestershire	
85 Ashurst School, Leicestershire	144 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	
86 Durham Johnston School, Leicestershire	145 St Albans School, Hertfordshire	
87 St Catherine's School, Leicestershire	146 Carfax Le Walsingham School, Norfolk	
88 Hargreaves College, Leicestershire	147 King's High School, Warwick	





CELEBRATION



I am very happy to have been appointed as the Headteacher of Richmond and am so pleased to get to continue my work here.

I have worked as a teacher and leader in SECAT schools for many years and love being part of the community of schools that we have.

Having worked in teaching for nearly twenty years, the majority of which having been in Shoebury schools, I know how lucky we are to be so close – both in proximity and in links, to enable all the schools to develop and grow together, sharing skills and knowledge.

I am looking forward to my new role at Richmond and to working with the children, parents, leaders and staff here to continue to develop the learning and opportunities our children have so they can receive the best education possible whilst feeling safe and happy in our Richmond community.



**Kate Money Penny Headteacher
Richmond Avenue Primary School**

We are delighted to announce that Marie Cook will be taking on the role of Communications Lead across SECAT as from after the half term break. Marie will be doing this alongside her Shoeburyness High School role which she will continue with.

Marie will be working on our social media presence and strategy alongside our communication with our communities and the media.

We look forward to further professionalising our communication and bringing you more interesting facts and community engagement.



**Marie Cook
Communications Lead**



Hinguar Primary School

Equipment Name and Number	Number of votes								Total
	N	R	1	2	3	4	5	6	
1. Air Skier	10	4	13	11	19	5	24	18	104
2. Arm and pedal Bike	5	11	9	8	17	18	12	4	84
3. Double Air Walker	11	6	22	26	19	25	28	24	161
4. Double Cross Country Skier	15	2	15	18	18	20	2	8	98
5. Elliptical Cross Trainer	10	3	11	17	17	9	24	9	100
6. The Rider	10	1	18	16	14	22	15	0	96
7. Hip Twister	12	16	12	8	12	22	20	1	103
8. Seated Leg Press	5	12	21	15	18	15	26	20	132
9. T'ai Chi Spinners	8	3	7	19	13	9	0	0	59

Pupil Voice—The children who attended the Hub at Richmond Avenue Primary School during the first lockdown, enjoyed using the outdoor gym equipment that they had there and asked if we could purchase this for our school. A socially distanced meeting was held with the sports reps from each class in Years 2-6 and outlined the proposal which was unanimously agreed as a welcomed project. The sports reps were provided with a list of equipment numbers to conduct a vote within their classes. Children were tasked with choosing their top 6 favoured items which would then be tallied by the sports reps. Sports Reps in Years 5 and 6 were additionally presented with the task of calculating if the selected items were within our budget. The results below were calculated by the sports reps at a cost of £11,030 which was within our budget of £16,904.84.










The company selected to complete the works was Sportsafe UK who hold a range of Quality Marks and are part of the Association of Physical Education. The additional benefit is that they have a branch based in Colchester and have agreed to complete the works within the specified deadline. They have also provided a discount to enable us to have 10 items for the total cost of £19,210.00

The total amount would have been cheaper but due to the site suffering considerable periods of surface water on the grass and to enable all round use, grass mat surfacing will be installed.

Whilst this is over the original budget of £16,904.84, it was felt to be a worthwhile investment and would increase the number of children accessing the resource.

Your Design Includes

- ① - Air Skier **£694.00 ex VAT**
- ② - Arm & Pedal Bike **£648.00 ex VAT**
- ③ - Double Air Walker **£2,034.00 ex VAT**
- ④ - Double Cross Country Skier **£1,958.00 ex VAT**
- ⑤ - Elliptical Cross Trainer **£1,900.00 ex VAT**
- ⑥ - The Rider **£1,406.00 ex VAT**
- ⑦ - Hip Twister **£1,840.00 ex VAT**
- ⑧ - Seated Leg Press **£1,673.00 ex VAT**
- ⑨ - Tai Chi Spinners **£1,329.00 ex VAT**



Thorpedene Primary School

After a few technological problems with our Microsoft Teams setup for Remote Learning we are extremely pleased with the engagement and impact we are seeing from the families learning remotely at home. We know there is no substitute for face to face learning in the classroom however we are so proud of our children and families for their hard work and time they are giving to support children's learning at home.

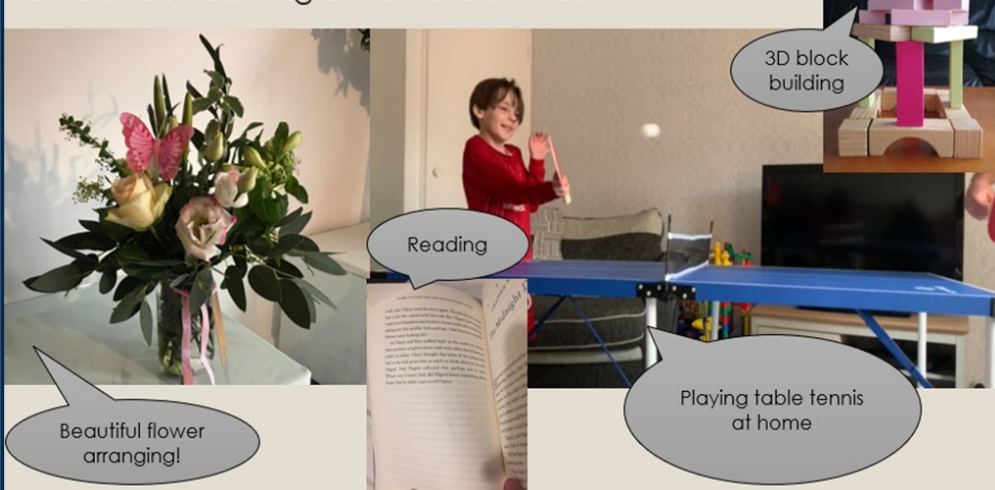
Through our year group email addresses and class Teams we have been able to see a wide range of activities that are taking place at home. As a new way of learning for everyone we look forward to seeing the creative ways the children are learning at home – not only the lessons set online by our teachers, but we have also seen activities including baking cakes, nature walks, developing new sports games, flower arranging, table tennis experts, shape hunts and many more.

An example of a wonderful poem written by Abigail, Year 4:

Ice Dragon Poem

Like slippery snow made of clear ice,
Big as a bus but friendly and nice,
Ice Dragon shimmers in the light,
Strong and shiny like a knight.
Starlight falls on Ice Dragon's wings,
With peace and joy she always sings,
Flying through the Arctic night sky,
Spreading her kindness from up high.

Some of our learning at home activities.....



We value feedback from our families and here are some of their comments:

"The move to assignments has made accessing and submitting the work much easier to follow"

"Thank you for all the hard work and support that has been put in place to support the children at home."

"The daily videos provide motivation"

"This time there is more structure and guidance, and videos are a great resource to help with the teaching"



THANK YOU!

A huge thank you to all of our community for the time and input you have given to the putting together of the MAT Strategic Plan. The Trust Board approved this 'living' document on Monday 8th February and it is now being disseminated further to all schools, pupils, staff, parents, governors and the community. You can find it on the SECAT website [Southend East Community Academy Trust - SECAT Mission Statement](#)

Thank You!

SECAT would like to say a huge thank you to Havens Hospices for their kind donation of PPE to our schools. Face masks that were unable to be used in a medical environment were kindly gifted to our schools for our staff and students to use.



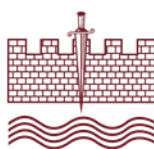
Making every day count.

Thank You

SECAT would like to say a huge thanks to **Pier Management** for their kind donation of laptops for secondary students as a result of Kirk Edwards contacting them for support.

Daniel Harrison Managing Director of Pier Management—

“As a local business, we are keen to see our resident schools nurture the next generation of talented individuals. We are sorry to hear of the funding difficulties in respect of the laptops and would like to offer some financial assistance. Our parent company (the Regis Group) along with its two subsidiaries, Pier Management Ltd and Lifespace, would like to make a donation of £10,070 to the school which we understand will allow you to acquire 38 laptops.”



Stop Press!

Estates Update

We are in the process of concluding contract tenders for cleaning, photocopiers and printers and asset management across the Trust schools. These tenders are resulting in savings of tens of thousands of pounds across the contract life resulting in more money which can be invested in the education of children, whilst ensuring we get the best possible service and provision.

We are also delighted to have appointed an addition to the Thorpedene Site Team who will join us imminently!

Pre- and After-School Provision

Many thanks to all those who responded to the survey regarding pre- and after-school care provision. We have analysed the results of that survey and had begun to put in place what we may have been able to offer. Then the lockdown happened and we had to halt the process because of lack of capacity. We will revisit this proposal following the proposed return of the children to school in March. Realistically I am sure you will appreciate that nothing is likely to happen before Easter and we thank you for your patience.

