

Dear Samuel Barlow Primary and Wainwright Primary Academy families,

Well here we are at the end of the first term of 2022/23, this term has had its challenges. I was hoping not to mention Covid but it has stuck around and we've also felt the impact of flu and the affect it is having in both academies, with staff and students taking ill, however, both academies have pulled through, staff and students alike, it's not been easy. I want to say thank you to our academies, for the resilience of the team and the children over this first term.

The governors continue to support the academies and thank staff, students and parent/carers for their continued support. It's been great for governors to meet face to face, some of us meeting in person for the first time. We said goodbye to one of our governors from the board, who for personal reasons has resigned from the committee.

On that note we have vacancies for a parent governor and community governors, if you think this is something you would like to look at, please talk to our principals.

Even though we've faced challenges in this first term, both academies have achieved so much, below are some bullet points of the success across both academies and supported by the Academy Committee and Senior Leadership Team.

Samuel Barlow

- Links with our community including visits to Church for Remembrance and a Carol Service as well as singing at the Clipstone Lights Switch On
- A new PTA who have successfully provided discos, a Christmas Fair and competitions to raise funds
- Face to face parents evenings with a school book fair which gained books for our libraries and parents workshops for wellbeing and parenting, Phonics and SEND
- Curriculum leadership development and sharing of good practice – our writing across the academy is rising in standards all of the time.

Wainwright

- Varied trips and educational experiences now returning since Covid, with many comments on the children's exceptional behaviour.
- PTA running a successful disco and winter events including the Winter Wonderland and Grotto
- A return to face-to-face parents' evenings
- A successful Academy Improvement Review which recognised the many developments that have happened in the past year to continue to improve the outcomes for all children.

As governors, mental health and well-being of staff and students has been a concern and a priority, in all our conversations with the Senior Leadership, this along with safeguarding has been at the forefront of our conversations

On behalf of the governors, I would like to wish all staff, students and their families a very Merry Christmas and look forward to a prosperous 2023.

Kind Regards

Mr Pete Edwards, Chair of Academy Committee governors