



Dear Yeoman and Redgate families,

It doesn't seem possible that we are coming towards the end of 2021 and it has been another term of ups and downs for everyone. We were hoping that after the smooth return to school in September things would be a little more settled, but we were reminded that Covid-19 has not gone away just yet unfortunately. Some classes at Yeoman Park were forced to move to online learning for a short while as cases increased amongst students and staff. However, the staff at the academies have done a remarkable job in keeping the education of the children on track – they always put the needs of the children and young people first.

It has been good to see some normal activities resuming though and it has been a real pleasure to be able to visit the academies again after such a long time. I visited Redgate as the children were arriving and was treated to lots of good mornings and smiles; while walking around Yeoman Park it was lovely to talk to the students again. Visiting the classrooms again was enjoyable and the children were all busily engaged in their activities and working hard! I could see a huge difference to the environment as the outdoor spaces, classrooms and even the corridors have been improved and updated, and of course at Yeoman Park we are eagerly awaiting plans for the new school building. Seeing the engagement and enjoyment of the children was fantastic– they all looked very happy to be at school!

Education has continued as normal and the children and young people in the academies have been enjoying learning about space this term as the photos in the newsletter show. They have been finding out all about planets, blasting to the moon in an imaginary rocket and trying out alien recipes. They have found time to celebrate Diwali in a variety of sensory ways. They have also made a good start to the new RHSE curriculum, which is being taught in an interesting and engaging way, suited to the needs of the children and young people in the academies.

The Christmas events will be online again this year and I am looking forward to joining everyone in the virtual celebration. On behalf of the governors, I would like to wish you a very Happy Christmas and we hope to meet some of you in person in 2022!

Kind regards

Lynn Weeks

Chair of Yeoman Park and Redgate Academy Committee