



The Poppy Academy Trust

Executive Headteacher: Mrs A. Aharon

St John's CE Infant and Nursery School

Head of School: Mrs D. Leggett

Gills Hill Lane, Radlett, Hertfordshire, WD7 8DD
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Fair Field Junior School

Head of School: Mrs C. Goodwin

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Friday 18th September 2020

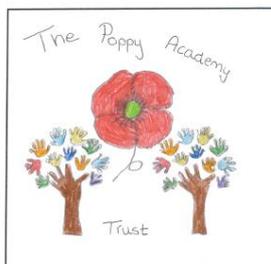
Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the Autumn Term. We are delighted once again to be together as school communities and welcome our children, staff, and families back to school. The Trust has been working hard to ensure that the health and safety of the school community is paramount to all the changes and measures that have been put in place.

The Trust is delighted with the positive feedback both the schools received throughout the lockdown period about home learning, support for key worker and vulnerable children and the management of the reopening of both schools. Mrs Leggett and Mrs Goodwin have managed the schools with excellence through an incredibly challenging time. We are exceptionally proud of the work we have done to support the children through the lockdown and of the children who have been coming to school and those who have been learning from home. Thank you to all our staff for learning new technical skills, working hard through a difficult period of time and continuing to smile and help keep our children focussed and positive.

It's a long time since the idea of bringing St John's and Fair Field together first arose here in Radlett. So many conversations, meetings and reports - and all the time and energy invested by generations of school leaders, governors and staff. But it's all been worth it and it's such a joy to be able to confirm to you that it's done. During the lockdown period St. John's converted from a voluntary controlled school to an academy. It has joined Fair Field in a Multi-Academy Trust which is now called The Poppy Academy Trust. This means that whilst both schools maintain their unique identity, they will go on strengthening their links and working closely together. I continue to be the Executive Headteacher of both schools and the Chief Executive Officer of the Trust, supporting the strategic direction of both schools and working very closely with our two Heads of School, Mrs Leggett at St John's and Mrs Goodwin at Fair Field.

Before lockdown, we launched a competition across both schools for a new logo. These three entries were shortlisted.



Hollie and Millie Neale



Yael Caplan



Bridie Curran

Our designer used these entries to choose the winning design, which was Bridie's who is now in Year 3 at Fair Field. Well done to all the children that entered and to our three finalists. A special well done to Bridie for her design which inspired our new Trust logo (see at the top of the page).



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The pandemic has hit St John's and Fair Field as hard as it has so many other schools in Britain and the world. As many of you will already know, the St John's community has been raising money to offset the damage done to the School's budget by Covid-19. The amazing 56K for 56Y campaign raised over £31,000 thanks to all your excellent efforts. Thank you to everyone who contributed financially and those who organised cake sales, ran, cycled or stepped 56km, 5.6km, 56,000 steps, participated in online events such as the PFA quiz, played 56 songs, wrote 56 pages, ran exercise or mindfulness classes, baked, arranged quizzes, sold toys and books and to all those who participated in them! All the money raised has enabled St John's to continue to provide the best possible education for our children.

This academic year brings in new ventures from both our parent bodies. St John's PFA will be fundraising to upgrade the school's ageing technology. Fair Field PTA will be fundraising to hopefully purchase a Trust minibus so that Fair Field can continue its increasing presence in local sporting and academic competitions. Parents and carers are all welcome to contribute ideas and financial donations. Please contact our school offices for further information.

And, to finish, we'd like to thank you all - for your support through the lockdown, for your efforts to keep the children on track despite the lockdown, for your generous support for each other and for the schools. We really couldn't have done any of this without you.

Yours faithfully,

Alice Aharon
Executive Headteacher
CEO of The Poppy Academy Trust

