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Dear parents/carers,

A warm welcome to the start of the new school year. I hope your children have settled quickly into their new classes, and those who are starting school for the first time have settled well into school life. I have certainly been impressed with the quality of learning taking place this week when I visited all the classrooms across the federation.

This year is the second year of the Welland Primary Schools Federation and it is fair to say we have come a long way in a short time. Teachers are working closely together across the federation to share and enhance their practice and shape and develop our education provision for all our children.

A significant project we have been working on during 2018/19 is the development of our new curriculum, which we have launched this week. We have moved from a topic and theme based curriculum to a subject-based curriculum. Our reasons for this are rooted in our own research and our developing understanding of cognitive science. Under our previous curriculum, children skimmed the surface of many subjects (Maths and English excepted) due to the fact that subjects were woven together through a topic. The National Curriculum makes it clear that children should have the opportunity to study all subjects in depth and over time. We believe it is important for children to build a deep knowledge of their world and have the opportunity to study, and develop an interest in, a broad range of subjects.

Our Governing Body will be taking an increasingly pro-active role within each school with different governors assuming responsibility for different aspects of education provision. For example, we have governors responsible for monitoring safeguarding, SEN provision, curriculum resource provision and building maintenance to name a few. Collectively we have one aim; to strive to ensure we provide every child with the tools to become confident, inquisitive and knowledgeable learners so they can have every opportunity to succeed and achieve.

We have an exciting year ahead with many challenges. We set high standards and have high expectations for all, and I am confident that the dedicated team of teachers and leaders in each school will ensure 2019/20 will be a successful year for all our schools.

Yours sincerely

Andrew Raistrick

Executive Headteacher

Working collaboratively with Pinchbeck East CofE and Spalding Primary Schools

