



The Partnership Centre
Marlwood School Site
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Chief Executive William Roberts

CSET Update for Parents, Staff and Governors – September 2017

Welcome to a new academic year!

Across the CSET family of seven schools, 798 students have started in Year 7, and 102 children have joined Reception classes this week. We are particularly pleased to welcome 57 new students at Lyde Green, doubling the size of the school which opened just two years ago, and including four students in the new specialist Access Centre.

We also welcome 46 new staff to CSET this term, alongside a number of existing staff taking new roles within the Trust. Two schools start the year under new leadership: Lisa Howell is joining Downend School as Headteacher, and Angie Browne who is Interim Headteacher at The Castle School. We wish all our new staff and students every success!

This summer CSET schools celebrated some excellent results in primary national tests and in secondary schools at GCSE and A-level. Five of our schools achieved their best-ever outcomes this summer, a testament to the hard work of students and staff, but also demonstrating the benefits of schools working together to raise achievement.

The summer holiday was a very busy time for our Estates Team, with major works undertaken at The Castle School where a new four-classroom block has been installed and Phase 1 of refurbishments to the main school buildings completed. In addition, significant maintenance work was carried out at Marlwood and Severn Beach and at Charfield, the original entrance porch to the village school has been renovated. These works were funded through the Capital Improvement Fund which CSET, as a multi-academy trust, can access from the Department for Education.

Over recent months we have been refreshing our schools' websites, with a new design being rolled out during the autumn term. They are all accessible via www.cset.co.uk Each school website includes details of open evenings and mornings for prospective parents, which take place this term.

Our partnership with other local schools continues to be very important to us. We have heard in the last few days that Olympus Academy Trust (OAT) has been approved as the new sponsor for Winterbourne International Academy, following the very successful OAT/CSET joint leadership support that has been provided since January. This means that we can continue developing our innovative school-to-school support networks, to the benefit of all students in the local area.

We were also delighted that our joint bid with OAT to open a Teaching School was approved earlier in the summer, which will enhance our ability to recruit staff and provide excellent professional training in the future. Ongoing training for staff is vitally important and on the next INSET day, Friday, 20th October, all CSET staff will attend a joint conference at Mangotsfield School.

I wish all of you a productive start to what promises to be a busy year!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'W Roberts', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

William Roberts
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