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Dear Hackney Parents and Carers,

As the Spring Term concludes, I want to thank you for your unwavering commitment to your children's education. This term has been filled with achievements across our schools, and the well-being and success of every child remains our highest priority. I hope you have a good Easter break and for those observing Passover I hope you have a peaceful reflective period.

### **Commitment to Excellence and Local Support**

Our ongoing dedication to a prosperous future for all children in Hackney remains steadfast. I encourage you to review Hackney's Education 3 Year Strategic Plan, available on our website - <https://education.hackney.gov.uk/content/about-us>; this clearly maps out our commitment to maintaining high standards and an inclusive system where every child is set up to thrive. To that end, we continue to strengthen our partnerships across all school sectors to better address our most critical challenges—most notably, our commitment to expanding specialist provision for children with high Special Educational Needs and Disabilities (SEND). By prioritising transparent communication and strong relationships, we aim to ensure that every child, regardless of their needs, has the support required to thrive in Hackney.

Furthermore, we are dedicated to providing the very best support beyond the traditional classroom. Our specialised services have successfully transitioned into HEALS (Hackney Education Alternative Learning Service). HEALS operates on a "Team Around the School" principle, delivering specialist provision, including attendance support and the Medical Needs Tuition Service, to ensure that all children benefit from high-quality learning environments. It was a pleasure to have some of you join the online meeting for parents and carers regarding an update on HEALS.

As Deputy Mayor, I want to emphasise the crucial role of parents and carers; you are essential partners in this journey, and we recognise and respect your diverse needs and priorities. We are committed to fostering open communication and strong relationships to ensure that all voices are heard and valued. Thank you for your critical support as we work together to achieve the best outcomes for Hackney's schools.

### **Embedding Race Equity and Anti-Racist Principles**

As the term concludes, we are delighted to share the significant progress we have made in embedding race equity and anti-racist principles across our schools to create a more equitable and inclusive learning environment for your children. We have officially launched the Refreshed Hackney Diverse Curriculum, which structurally embeds a Global Majority lens

across all subject syllabi, introducing important new modules such as Windrush and Its Legacy, Activism and Social Justice Movements, and Diversity in STEM.

### **Celebrating Reading and Global Achievements**

The launch of the National Year of Reading 2026 has been truly inspiring! Our theme, "Go All In," successfully encourages children to connect reading with their personal passions, whether that's science, sport, or music. Our fantastic Hackney Reading Champions are leading this work, helping other students discover the joy of books.

We are incredibly grateful for the role you play at home. Your commitment to encouraging reading outside of school is invaluable. By reading with your children, listening to them read, and visiting the library, you are laying the foundation for their lifelong success and helping to bring the 'Go All In' vision to life. Thank you for being such essential partners in your child's education journey.

This term's success also reached a global stage: our Reading Champions from All Saints, Holmleigh, Morningside, Kingsmead, and St. Matthias travelled to Tenerife on a Turing-funded exchange programme. They represented Hackney as global leaders, teaching Spanish schools how they promote reading and celebrating our borough's diversity through co-creating a book about Carnival.

### **Public Health Alert: Meningococcal Disease**

As we conclude this term, we extend our sincere gratitude for the essential role you play in promoting the health and safety of your children. We appreciate your continued support particularly in encouraging vigilance regarding serious conditions like Meningitis. We know that you are aware of the need to seek urgent medical help if early signs (such as vomiting, fever, aches, or headaches) develop or worsen. While the UK Health Security Agency is closely tracking a recent public health matter, an invasive meningococcal disease outbreak in Kent, we are pleased that no related cases have been notified within Hackney.

The progress made this term is only possible because of the collective effort of our community, from dedicated school staff and committed local authority teams to, most importantly, you, the parents and carers. I am immensely proud of what we have achieved together and look forward to building on this momentum when your children return.

I wish you and your family a restful and peaceful spring break.

Yours sincerely,



Cllr Anntoinette Bramble

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