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Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to inform you that we have received our Academy Order which will enable Reigate School to convert to an academy on 1 November 2017. As previously confirmed we will all keep our individual school names and therefore we will continue to be known as Reigate School.

As you know we are already working together as a group of schools and when we convert Reigate School will be a founder member of Greensand Multi Academy Trust (MAT). Becoming part of Greensand Academy offers many opportunities for school development that will benefit the children over time, but the conversion will not alter anything on a day to day basis and the identity and uniqueness of our school will remain the same. Just to remind you the five other local schools are Holmesdale Community Infant School, Reigate Priory Junior School, Dovers Green School, St John's Primary School and Wray Common Primary School. All except Reigate Priory School have received their Academy Order.

Despite concerted efforts on behalf of the Head, Governors and members of the Greensand MAT, Reigate Priory School's academy order has been deferred by the Department of Education because of the significant challenges presented by the Grade 1, Monument status of the Reigate Priory School building. Whilst they are doing everything they can to resolve the issues related to the building, Reigate Priory School will not be able to make its academy conversion in line with the other local schools. Despite this disappointment, Reigate Priory School are part of the Greensand family and will continue to play an important role in the development of the Greensand's MAT and will work collaboratively now and in the future with the Greensand MAT schools to ensure and enhance the continuity for children and their learning.

Due to a new building project St John's Primary School will not be able to convert to an academy at the same time as the other schools but will be fully involved in all discussions and decisions made and will convert as soon as possible dependent on building work completion.

We are really excited that after months and months of discussion conversion to an academy is finally going ahead and has given us the opportunity to ensure we can protect our local community partnerships and formalise our existing working relationships for the long term benefit of children and their education.

As always, I will keep you fully informed of any further developments.

Yours sincerely



Nigel Gout  
Chair of Governors