

Friday 09 September 2022



## Headteacher Letter: Welcome Back

Dear Parents & Carers,

I hope my letter finds you all safe and well and that you have all enjoyed spending time with family and friends over summer.

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back and I have enjoyed seeing lots of familiar faces and new ones too.

The first week back has gone incredibly well and the pupils have made such a positive start to the new school year.

Yesterday we heard the sad news that Queen Elizabeth II had peacefully passed away at her home in Balmoral. As a school we all enjoyed taking part in her platinum jubilee celebrations early in the year and will now plan a fitting tribute to commemorate her service to our country and the commonwealth. I am sure you will all join me in expressing our sincere and heartfelt gratitude for a life of dedicated and devoted service and in offering our condolences to the members of the royal family at this difficult time.

### Staff Team update

We were sad to say goodbye to Mrs Howard, Office Manager, who moved onto a new role in the private sector during the holidays. I am sure you will join me in thanking her and wishing her well for the future.

Miss Melling has welcomed her new arrival over the holidays, baby Frankie, I am pleased to report both Mum and baby are doing well.

We have had several fantastic additions to the staff team this year, Miss K Buck (Teacher 9A), Mrs S Chaloner (Teacher 8P), Miss A Masterson (TA3 Rowan), Mrs K Loan (TA2 Chestnut), Miss G Knapton (TA1 Maple) Miss C Clark (TA1 Sycamore), Mrs C Gynes (TA1 7P), Mrs H Stubbs (TA1 8A), Mr G Stazicker (TA1 Absence Cover), Miss H Bilsborough (TA1 Rowan), Miss D Stringfellow (TA1 Willow), Miss T Smith (TA1 10G), Mrs L Smith (Business Support Officer), please look at the Meet the staff pages on our website, so you can put faces to names.

### Governor Update

Following on from my letters at the end of term regarding a parent vacancy on our Governing Body, we also had a further vacancy arise as one of our existing co-opted Governors Mrs Antwis made the difficult decision to step down. We received applications from two parents, and as we had two vacancies I am pleased to say, Miss A Burgess parent of a pupil in Maple Class and Mrs A Kanwar parent of pupil in Willow Class have been invited to join the Governing Body.



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## Leadership Restructure

During the summer term, we engaged in a review of our existing structure identifying elements that were working well and how we could further enhance it. As a result, a phase specific model is now in place, with each Deputy now responsible for a specific phase of the school, supported by a phase specific leading practitioner, and the combining of the pupil support and parent/carer support manager roles, so they are phase specific too.

The new structure is:

### Primary

Head of Primary Phase: Mrs Clegg  
Leading Practitioner: Miss Melling\*  
Parent & Pupil Support Manager: Mrs Patterson

### Secondary

Head of Secondary Phase: Miss Wells,  
Leading Practitioners: Mrs Crouch\* & Mrs Linde  
Parent & Pupil Support manager: Miss Della Fera

\*Mrs Crouch will be Primary Leading Practitioner whilst Miss Melling is on maternity leave.

## Fundraising

One of our parents Aaron Causey, is undertaking an exceptional challenge to raise funds for our school. Aaron will be taking on the Cape Wrath Trail a gruelling 230-mile hike across the remote Scottish Highlands, wild camping along the way over the three-week trek. This is such an incredible challenge, and we are very grateful that he chosen our school to be the beneficiary of his fundraising efforts. Aaron has a Facebook page, please feel free to follow him on his journey and offer him much needed encouragement and support <https://m.facebook.com/Enduring-Cape-Wrath-for-Education-charity-walk-102941482503916/> Any donation of any amount would be greatly appreciated, please see the link to his fundraising page <https://gofund.me/67cf2c68> Good Luck Aaron!

## Chill & Chat Sessions

Mrs Patterson & Miss Della Fera have planned a series of chill & chat sessions across the year, providing parents & carers with a comfortable space to come together to chat and relax. The first session is 1pm – 2pm on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> October, come along for a cuppa and a slice of cake and meet other parents and carers of pupils at the school.

## Calendar of Events

We have lots of exciting and fun events and special days planned. Our calendar of events is available on the school website. Please take a few moments to look and add the dates to your diaries. Our MacMillan Coffee morning, Jeans for Genes Day and parent & teacher meetings are all coming up this month.

I'll look forward to seeing you soon,

Kindest regards,

Kieran Welsh  
Headteacher

