



# Birdsege First School Newsletter

## May 2020



Nurturing & kind, respectful, team, partnership,

### News from the Chair of Governors

We are sad to inform you of the resignation of our Governing Body Chair, Mr Phil Hanson. We are sure you will join all the Staff and Governors in both thanking him and wishing him all the best for his new adventures.

Therefore, I would now like to introduce myself as the new Chair of Governors at Birdsege First School. My name is Siân Allen and I have been part of the Governing Body since January. Over these past few months I have enjoyed a number of visits to the school and was very impressed by the learning environment, friendliness of the staff and how keen the pupils are to champion their school.

My background is 30 plus years of working within education; in numerous roles, in many varied settings. Currently I work part time as a Cover Supervisor and Learning Mentor in a Holme Valley Primary School. Previously I have been a staff Governor and a Chair of Governors.

Now for some exciting news! I am thrilled to announce that Miss Rachael Kaye is pregnant with her second child. The baby is due in October and this obviously necessitates careful considerations regarding leadership at Birdsege.

After discussions with The Mast CEO Natasha Greenough and Executive Headteacher Debra Knowles, we are delighted to share with you that we will be advertising for a full time permanent Headteacher for Birdsege First School. This is a most wonderful opportunity to recruit a Headteacher who will be dedicated and committed to our school and continue the great successes to date.

Currently we are very busy compiling the job advert and recruitment pack, ready to advertise on Thursday 7th May. This role will be from September but please be reassured we will still be working in close collaboration with the other schools within the MAST especially Shelley First School.

I look forward to meeting you once we can all safely return to the new normal. Please keep safe and look after your loved ones.

With best wishes to you all.  
Siân Allen



### Website

We are currently updating our website and hope to have this ready before the end of term. Our aim is the website to be informative but also for it to support the celebration of our school. How exciting!

We were in the process of organising a drone visit just before the Lockdown. We want to photograph every child in school within a heart shape ("small school, big heart"); this will be used in our prospectus and other marketing materials. It is unlikely that individuals will be identifiable but please let the office know if you do NOT want your child to be part of this when we can re-arrange it. We will follow social-distancing rules if these are still in place.

### Strange times

We are all living in unusual circumstances and all of the staff send their very best wishes to all of our families – we miss you! Thank you so very much for supporting your child's learning – this is not easy and is much appreciated. Hopefully, the support from teachers is helping you – a reminder that we are available between 9.00am and 3.30pm.

Please let us know if you have any concerns and we will do our best to help. If your child receives free school meals (NOT the Universal Free Meals in Key Stage 1) you should be receiving supermarket vouchers. Please make us aware if this does not happen. We have also attached a leaflet regarding Free School Meals as your family may now meet the criteria.

A reminder that we are continuing to offer on-site provision for pupils of Key Workers at Scissett Middle. This has been operating throughout school holidays including Bank Holidays. The children have been amazing and we are incredibly grateful to staff on-site. If you need to be added to the list because you have started to work again as a Key Worker please ask the office to add you to the list. Thank you.

PUT IN STUFF HERE RE KATEST NEWS RE LOCKDOWN



### Class 3 Residential

We have also now issued all of the refunds for Kingswood—please let us know if you have not yet received this. **Please email the office if you need to discuss this further.**

### Head Teacher Awards

We have started emailing Head Teacher Awards this week – look out for those emailed certificates from Miss Kaye on a Friday.

Please let us know of any other achievements happening at home as we can post these on the website – we would love to hear from you! Perhaps you have raised money for charity or reached a personal best in some way. Come on, don't be shy—let's find those silver linings!

### VE Day celebrations

We were hoping to celebrate this event at school but if you want to find out about this important historical event please see a link below:

<https://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/family/ve-day-2020-school-ideas-homeschooling-540821>

If you do celebrate in some way please send us your photos and we can share them on the website or via Twitter.



### Reporting to parents:

The Government has removed the legal requirement to report Reception and Year 2 data due to the Lockdown. We are still having conversations about pupil progress but obviously this makes it very difficult to report with accuracy—particularly when predicting the end of year attainment.

We will still send out reports (Y1-Y5) regarding each child's progress and efforts in school. We will still provide you with an estimated grade for end of year achievement, taking into account how your child was progressing **before** the closure and had they continued to achieve at their own pace throughout the year. This is not ideal but we felt that parents would want to read their child's report—even if the grade is not entirely accurate in the long run.

**Reception children usually receive a very detailed account of progress towards the Early Learning Goals.** will receive a slimmed down version of the normal report—school has taken government advice with regards to this and has designed their own template...

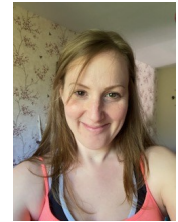
Hi everyone.  
Hope you are well.  
I am missing you all.  
Take care and stay safe.



Hello to all parents and children!  
I'm really missing seeing you all. I have seen one or two of you when I'm out walking with my dog Millie and it's lovely to have a chat.  
Stay safe and well and hopefully we'll all see each other again soon.  
Love Mrs Lavy/Sam x



Hi everyone, I really can't wait to see you all soon and run around on the big field!! Until then stay safe, happy and healthy but most of all have fun and enjoy the sunshine  
xxx



Hi Everyone!! I hope you are all ok and making the most of the time spent with your family. I miss seeing all of your smiley faces every day! Hope to see you all soon! Miss Kaye x



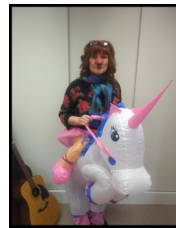
Hi everyone  
I thought you would like to see a photograph of my "Lockdown Friends". They keep me company while I am working in my office at home. They normally all look through my window so children can wave to them as they ride their bikes or walk along my street. You can see that they have their Union Flag bunting ready for the 75th Anniversary VE Day Commemorations on Friday.  
Hope to see you all soon.  
Love Mrs Conlon.

Hi Everyone.

What lovely weather we have been having, I hope that you have managed to enjoy some of it by getting some fresh air and exercise every day. Can't wait to hear all about it when we return to school. Until then, keep positive. Lots of love,  
Mrs Schofield.



Can't wait to see you all again, I miss you all very much. Take care, Mrs Knowles xx



Hi everyone. Hope you are all safe and well. Missing you all and hopefully will see you all very soon. Take care, Mrs Pepper.



Hi to everyone hope, your all keeping safe and well.  
The weather has been kind to us over the last few weeks so I hope you have been able to enjoy some activities outside.  
I miss my lunchtime hugs from Millie, Quinn, Tilley, Jamie and Grace hope to see you all very soon! Mrs Metcalfe.

From Miss Haigh.

Hello everyone!  
Well...isn't this a peculiar state of affairs?!

I do hope you're all well, and have been enjoying this beautiful weather and keeping active in and amongst all the school work.



Hi Everyone,  
Hope you are finding time to read some really great books in the sunshine too. Look forwards to seeing you soon.

Mrs Clarke.

I'm really missing you all, and do hope it won't be too long before life gets back to normal and we can all return safely to school!

In the meantime, stay safe and keep positive.  
Lots of love and (socially distant) hugs, Mrs. Carter

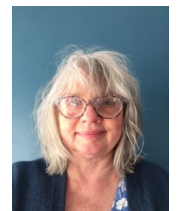


Hello Birdsedge! I hope you are all doing well. I cannot wait to see you all again and I'm sure by the time we return you will all have so many new skills and stories to tell us about.

Stay safe. Mrs Caven

Hi everyone! We miss you loads and can't wait to see you all again as soon as it's safe. I hope you are all well and enjoying the sunshine. Keep smiling and being good for your grown ups! Love from Miss Hutton and Jamie x

Hello to you all. I'm well and hope you are too. I just wanted to say how marvellous you all are! The amount of effort you are putting into your learning is amazing. I am really enjoying seeing photos of you doing such a variety of things from explaining your rollercoaster to your sculptures. Reading your stories is showing me all the things you have learnt and are learning from Bitesize. Please keep them rolling in especially if you haven't done so yet. I really want to read them. Keep up the good work and I trust that you are all behaving well for your parents and enjoying this beautiful weather.  
Missing you all, stay happy and safe. Ms Spark.



Hello boys and girls.

I hope you are all doing well in these strange times.  
Look forward to seeing you all again. Mrs Orwin x

