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Dear Parents

The glorious sunny days of April and May are now a very distant memory and we seem to have no let up from the wet and windy weather. I can only hope we see an improvement this week.

### Staffing Updates

#### **Happy Retirement Mrs Rycroft**

As many of you will be aware Mrs Rycroft has been experiencing considerable difficulties with her voice, chest and throat for many years now. Although throughout much of this time she continued to come into school despite being poorly, her voice had deteriorated so much that she hasn't been well enough to come in since last November. She is still without a voice now over 6 months later and clearly it isn't possible for her to work in school with no voice. Therefore, she reluctantly felt that she had no option but to apply for ill health retirement and leave the job she loves. Her last official date as a member of staff here at KWPS was Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> June.

Daryl has been a valued member of our staff team for over 20 years and during this time has made a big difference to the lives of so many of our pupils and families. She will be very much missed by staff, pupils and parents alike but her long term health must be her priority. Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances we cannot give Daryl the 'send-off' that she truly deserves. However, I know that many parents and children will want to send their best wishes to her. Therefore, we will put a box out in the Reception area for anyone who would like to drop cards or messages for Mrs Rycroft. I will make sure that they are passed onto her. We are hoping that she will keep her ties with the KWPS family and that she will be able to pop into school for a proper goodbye once all this is over. In the meantime, we wish her a long and happy retirement.

#### **Appointment of Ms Norris as Job Share Deputy Headteacher**

You will be pleased to know that Mrs Dawn Hankinson will be returning from her extended adoption leave in September on a part-time basis and I am delighted to say that Ms Joy Norris, who has been acting Deputy Head for the last 18 months during Mrs Hankinson's absence, has been appointed as her job share Deputy. They will be teaching in Year 2 with Mrs Hankinson on Monday to Wednesday and Ms Norris Wednesday to Friday. Miss Jane Fiddler will be moving to Year 5 and all other class teachers will be remaining in their current year group.

#### **Class Teachers/Year Groups for 2019/20**

|           |                              |
|-----------|------------------------------|
| Reception | Mrs Chandler and Mrs Culshaw |
| Year 1    | Mrs Coxon                    |
| Year 2    | Mrs Hankinson and Ms Norris  |
| Year 3    | Mrs Eccles                   |
| Year 4    | Miss Banks                   |
| Year 5    | Miss Fiddler                 |
| Year 6    | Mrs Lewthwaite               |

## **Transition**

We recognise that September will be difficult for many of our children who haven't had the opportunity to return to school yet. Therefore we are endeavouring to try to put in place some virtual support for the transition to the new class. For our younger children we will be emailing a video of their next class teacher reading a story and this will also be added to the school website so they can become a little more familiar with their new teacher. We will be holding goodbye and welcome zoom sessions where the children will have a chance to say goodbye to their old class teacher and a brief 'hello' to their new teacher. Links to these will be emailed home.

We are also in the process of putting together a transition video for our Reception parents/children about their move to Year 1, and for our Year 2 parents/children about their transition to the Juniors/Year 3.

Whilst none of these can replace our traditional moving up day, hopefully it will go some way to alleviating some of the worries that you or your children may have.

## **Sumdog**

It has been lovely to see the enthusiasm from so many families for the 'Sumdog' maths competition – it is not too late to join in as the closing date is this Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> at 8.00pm. Your child's class teacher should have sent home the log in details. If you need any further information, please contact your class teacher or Mrs Eccles at [clare.eccles@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:clare.eccles@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk). Our Year 6 class are currently 17<sup>th</sup> in the national league table so there is everything to 'play' for. We will give you regular updates this week.

## **The Summer Holidays - Useful Contact Numbers**

In line with all local schools, we will be closing for the summer holidays. This will be for key worker children too, some of whom have been coming into school since lockdown first started including during the Easter and Whit holidays. So they will certainly be more than ready for a break.

However, we do want to ensure that our parents know where to access help if required during the holidays and over the next fortnight we will be sharing a range of email addresses and phone numbers that can be contacted if you need support. These will also be included on the website under our parents section.

## **Holiday Sports Camp**

Just a reminder that as I mentioned last week, Evolution Sports will be running a Sports Camp over the Summer Holidays. They will be holding this at Wesham CE School in the PAV building and field. The children will be in bubbles of 15 as required under current guidelines. If you want more details, please look at the Evolution Sports Education Facebook page, email [k.olloman@evolutionsportseducation.com](mailto:k.olloman@evolutionsportseducation.com) or contact Kieran on 07597 050935.

In the meantime, please don't hesitate to get in touch at [head@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk](mailto:head@kirkhamwesham.lancs.sch.uk), or via messenger on our school Facebook page (both are being checked regularly) or by ringing school.

With very best wishes

Rhiannon Jones

