



THE ARUN VILLAGES FEDERATION

Enabling every child to thrive and succeed

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs Stephanie Gibson

Chair of Governors: Mr Ray Jackson

Tuesday, June 15th, 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

As promised in my letter just before half term, I am now very pleased to be able to share with you our class and staffing arrangements for next year, 2021 – 2022.

Now that our federation is well-established and our schools are working together more closely, we have been able to appoint a central senior team, all of whom will work across both schools. The team comprises:

Mrs Martin – Executive Head Teacher

Mr Armitage – Assistant Executive Head, Teaching and Learning

Mrs Kirby – Assistant Executive Head, Operations (also Business Manager at St James')

At St James', I am delighted to tell you that we are moving to a four-class structure. The classes will be organised as follows:

Class 1 - Reception (Mrs Holt)

Class 2 – Years 1 and 2 (Mrs Brownbill)

Class 3 – Years 3 and 4 (Mrs Newton)

Class 4 – Years 5 and 6 (Mrs Douse)

Our rising numbers would have meant that the three classes we currently have would have been very full as well as uneven in terms of year groups. This structure will enable us to keep class numbers lower than average as well as offering our Reception children a dedicated Early Years classroom and provision. We believe that this arrangement will benefit all our children.

I am also very pleased to tell you that Mrs Brownbill and Mrs Douse will be remaining with us as class teachers next year. We will also be joined by Mrs Emma Newton, who will be with us for at least the Autumn Term. We are very much looking forward to welcoming Mrs Newton to the school team and to working with her next year.

Sadly, I have to let you know that Mrs Edwards will be leaving her post as our Senco at the end of this year as she takes a small step towards retirement. I am sure that you would wish to join us in thanking her for all she has done for the school and our children during her time here and to wish her every happiness for the future.

Mrs Brownbill will be taking over as Senco. She has been working closely with Mrs Edwards this term and is really looking forward to taking up this role next year. We wish her every success and thank her for the hard work she is doing in preparation for her new role.

School Council are currently working on a class name project, as they feel it is time for a change, especially as we will have another class to name! We will let you know as soon as possible what the class names and email addresses will be.

With this letter is a full list of staffing and roles, together with a guide for parents as to whom you should contact if you have any questions or concerns. We hope that this guide is clear and easy to use, but please do let us know if you think there is anything missing so that we can add to and update it as appropriate.

Summer seems to have arrived very suddenly as the end of the school year peeps over the horizon. Following the government's announcements yesterday, we will sadly not be able to welcome you all back to school for the events we have planned for the last few weeks of term. Hopefully, this will be the last period of restrictions, so let's try to make the best of it for the long term good of everyone. We are aiming to find the best possible way of sharing sports days and productions with you so that you can share in what the children are doing, albeit at a distance.

Further practical details will be shared with you either towards the end of this term or early next term, and we very much hope that we will be able to hold our usual Meet the Teacher event in September as life gradually returns to normal.

Thank you again for all your patience and co-operation as we continue to play our part in keeping the virus under control. I hope that you and your families will enjoy the final five weeks of term.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Gibson', written on a light-colored background.

Mrs Stephanie Gibson

Executive Head Teacher, Arun Villages Federation