

**Helmingsham Primary School and Nursery**

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Email: admin@henleyprimaryschool.netThursday 26th November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Recently, Helmingsham has been undergoing a period of change, with changes to staff, children and leadership. Whilst change takes a bit of getting used to, I would like to thank you for your trust in us as an academy and as school and for your support during this difficult time.

It is my pleasure to be writing to you all with some exciting news regarding staffing developments for Helmingsham beginning in the new year. As you are already aware, we will be losing Mrs Salmon and this has given us the opportunity to make changes across the school to best support our children.

We have two very experienced members of staff joining us for the remainder of the academic year. Whilst these positions are temporary, it gives us the time and opportunity to recruit the right staff for the long term, and look at the development needs of our whole school community.

We would like to welcome Mrs Sam Cutler, from the central team at the trust, in the role of Assistant Academy Head. She will be in school full time to support the Academy Head and other curriculum developments across the school. Within the trust, she takes a lead role in the wellbeing and emotional support of staff and pupils so I am sure we will be able to make use of her skills in this area.

We also welcome Mr Phil Jones to our team. He is an experienced KS2 teacher with lots of experience of Forest schools and outdoor learning. He has a keen interest in sport and will be a great asset to our team.

From January, Mrs Hawes (who currently teaches Owls class) will be joining Mrs Finch to teach the Otters class, replacing Mrs Salmon for half the week. As our Maths lead, Mrs Hawes will also be spending some time each week supporting Maths booster sessions and supporting us to raise the progress and attainment in Maths across the school.

Mr Jones will be working with Mrs Bakewell to teach the Owls class. He will be working for 3 days per week and Mrs Bakewell will continue to work for 2 days.

We are also hoping to welcome Mrs Miller back to the school team after a short period of absence.

With the introduction of our new curriculum structure, in line with the other Greenfields partnership school, Henley, and the proposed staff changes, we believe that the school will really begin to grow.

I hope you can see that as trust, we are taking action to address the issues presented and provide the best learning opportunities for all our young people.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Stephanie Hawes
Headteacher