

Holy Trinity Church of England Junior School

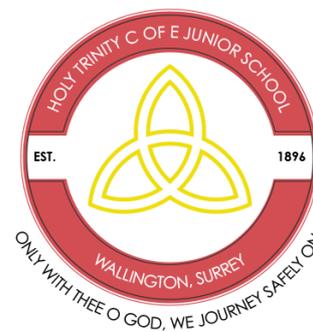
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Headteacher: Mrs S Gruffydd



9th July 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Re. teachers in September 2018

There was great excitement today as the children found out who their new teachers are for September. The new classes are listed below. Due to the new assessment system that came in during 2015, we have kept class teachers in their year groups for three years and now that our system is embedded and effective, some staff are moving to a new year group.

This summer we are also bidding fond farewells to three established teachers.

Mrs Sweetman has worked here at HT for twelve years. This has included being a class teacher in Year 5, then a member of the leadership team as well as a superb behaviour co-ordinator. Mrs Sweetman and I also taught Year 6 together at our last school, so I've known her for a long time. She is heading off to live in West Wales by the sea. We will miss her enormously. Mrs Sweetman is being replaced by Mr Lewis Still, as our new assistant head; he was appointed in the spring term and will have had five days induction with us before he starts in September.

Mr Jones has gained a promotion and will be moving to work in a school in Croydon. Congratulations.

Miss Peuble is off to travel to exciting warm places! All of these have been valued teachers and we wish them every happiness as they make these changes.

September 2018 (NB where it says 'with' a class – this is the class that the teacher is inheriting)

Year 6	Mr East Chestnut (with Cedar)	Mr Henshall Holly (with Hazel)	Mrs Jules Pine (with Ash)
Year 5	Miss Jones Hazel (with Oak)	Miss Alexander Cedar (with Elm)	Miss Ugbo Ash (with Spruce)
Year 4	Miss Brick Elm (with Willow)	Mrs Collins and Mrs Brodie Oak (with Poplar)	Miss Clark Spruce (with Beech)
Year 3	Miss Caluya Beech (with Dolphins)	Miss Mongiovi Poplar (with Pandas)	Mrs Mephram Willow (with Tigers)

Some of our wonderful support staff are also leaving for promotion or family reasons. Sadly, these include: Mrs Pilcher, Miss Vaz, Miss Stanley, Mrs Najeib and Mrs Baxter-Derrington. Miss Martin will be the new senior teaching assistant in Year 4.

Strategic planning embracing new opportunities

Having good teachers is key to the success of any school. At Holy Trinity, we know that we are fortunate to have great teachers who enjoy working here, and who stay for several years. As a result we have only a few changes every year, and this year we will be saying goodbye to two valued class teachers. Nationally there is a shortage of teachers and head teachers, with vacancies across the country. To address this need, the routes in to teaching have been evolving over the past few years.

Whatever route a trainee takes involves teaching alone for increasing lengths of time, working up to between 50% - 80% before becoming teachers with their own class. In their first year as a Newly Qualified Teacher (NQT) they will teach for 80% of the time and be supported according to their needs. Some routes into



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teaching have more emphasis on learning on the job and span a two year period, with trainees working towards teaching 80% in the second year of their training. All of the pathways meet statutory obligations.

We are keen to be involved in supporting new teachers who are training in this valued career. We have decided to work alongside the University of Buckingham, supporting graduate teachers on a two year pathway of meeting qualified teacher status. For September 2018 we will be welcoming three teachers to our school, two of whom are in their second year of a two year training course and are well on their way to becoming qualified. They will each have a course mentor and a school mentor to monitor and assist with their development.

Miss Ugbo has experience of teaching 80% of the time and as such, she will be the main teacher for Ash class in Year 5. She has proved her capability through references, interview and teaching observation. In addition to the support she will receive from her mentors, the class and their progress is carefully planned for and will be monitored by the leadership team throughout the year. Miss Ugbo is also spending 8 days in school this term in preparation.

Miss Denman will work in Willow class, alongside Mrs Mepham. Mrs Mepham is in charge of the class and will support Miss Denman's training as she progresses to teaching between 50-80% of the week over the year.

We will also be welcoming a new teacher to Year 4 called Miss Clark who has completed her PGCE in South Africa and will be teaching 80% in the coming year, supported in the other 20% by our current staff. As an NQT Miss Clark receives a mentor and the support of the leadership team where required.

Miss O'Connor joins us working in Year 5. Unlike Miss Ugbo and Miss Denman, she is in her first year of her graduate training scheme. She will be starting in September as a Senior Teaching Assistant, with the recognition that she is also a graduate who will, in her second year, be progressing towards 80% teaching time with a class.

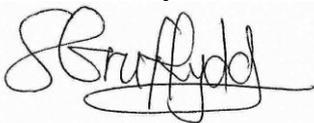
The new employees bring new experience and richness to our school, and staff are keen to support them in their training and make this successful for everyone.

As a school, with the experience that our staff have, this is a strategic direction in which we want to succeed. As with all of our classes, there is a focus on each class making their expected progress and each child thriving - with subject leaders and the senior leadership team monitoring and offering support to ensure good progress and wellbeing. Our new teaching staff will be provided with even more of this support as we take advantage of this new opportunity to work in partnership with the University of Buckingham.

If anyone would like any more information about this, please come and speak to me or Mrs Robins at the open evening. I am also happy to be available to meet parents after school in the Treehouse on Tuesday afternoon from 3.30pm – 4.15pm should anyone wish to hear further information. If you would like to be part of the meeting tomorrow, please let the office staff know.

Thank you in anticipation of your support as we move forward.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Gruffydd', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Mrs Gruffydd
Headteacher