

Summer Term 2015

This term in school...

Welcome to my Headteacher's Letter. Sent home termly it will let you know what's happening in school: at a leadership level, for the whole school and in the classroom.

As we approach the end of the year I would like to use this term's letter to share staffing information for September 2015. The children will be informed this afternoon (3.7.15) who their teacher will be next year. The children will be meeting their new teacher on Thursday 9th July.

Firstly I would like to share with you the staffing changes for September:

Miss Vitoria is relocating back to London having spent a year living at home in Sevenoaks. Miss Vitoria has been a fantastic teacher and it has been a pleasure to enable her to have such a positive start to her teaching career. We will miss her energy, enthusiasm and dance clubs. We wish her every success at her new school as she enters her second year of teaching.

Miss Drohan is relocating to Chelmsford to live with her partner. Miss Drohan has made an excellent contribution to Amherst during her two years. She has been subject leader for Geography and History and also helped run hockey club. We wish her every success as she enters her third year of teaching.

As many of you will be aware, Mrs Lester is expecting a baby in August. She will be away for a year on maternity leave. We wish her, and Mr Lester, good luck for the birth and coming life as parents! We look forward to her return next year.

I am delighted to be able to inform you of four exciting appointments who will be joining our teaching team in September:

Miss Megan Wonnacott will be beginning her first year of teaching and is a maths and music specialist. She has recently completed a Mathematics Degree BSC and PGCE at the University of Exeter. She also has Grade 8 on the recorder.

Miss Emily Frost will be beginning her first year of teaching and has recently completed a History Degree at the University of York and a PGCE at the University of Exeter. She is also a French and Music specialist (Grade 8 piano and Grade 8 violin).

Mrs Alison Chugg is an experienced teacher with 15 years of teaching and learning knowledge. She has a wide range of experiences including teaching in international schools in Hong Kong, New Dehli and Beijing (her husband works with the British Foreign Office). She is an English specialist and has experience of being an English subject leader.

Miss Annabel Holland will be beginning her first year of teaching. She has recently completed a three year BA QTS at Roehampton University with a specialism in music. Annabel plays the flute and piano. She is also a keen sportswoman.

Staffing structure for 2015/16

Year 3

Mrs Wheeler - Year Group Leader – Teaching Class 8

Miss Bodenham – Teaching Class 7

Miss Frost – Teaching Class 9

Year 4

Mr Hancock - Year Group Leader – Teaching 3W

Mr Clarke – Teaching 3D

Miss Holland – Teaching 3C

Year 5

Mrs Barratt - Year Group Leader – Teaching 4D
Miss Jones (Assistant Headteacher) – Teaching 4H
Miss Wonnacott – Teaching 4B

Year 6

Miss Apps - Year Group Leader – Teaching 5V
Mrs Chugg – Teaching 5J
Miss Parish – Teaching 5B

We have worked hard to provide a blend of experience and expertise in each year group and I feel confident that we have an exciting and dynamic teaching team in place for September. I believe we are in a very strong position to maintain the high standards and core values that Amherst upholds.

Finally I would like to share some personal news that some of you may know already. I am expecting the birth of my third child (Mrs Reid is, to be precise!) on 5th July. The governors have kindly agreed to me having two weeks paternity leave. Miss Jones will be acting Headteacher during this period. She will not be teaching 5J in the afternoons to allow her to balance the demands of class teaching and the additional leadership responsibilities. We will inform all parents when my paternity leave commences.

I wish you all a wonderful summer break when it arrives and hope to see many of you at the performances of ‘The Lion King’, ‘Festival on the Field’ and Sports Day.

Mr Reid