



"...Let us remember that, as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school."

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

28th November 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are now nearly two terms into our arrangement with West Kingsdown Church of England Primary School and whilst the benefits may not be clear to you as parents, they are numerous to staff and we look forward to a time when we can share facilities and resources with children across both schools.

The Governors at West Kingsdown, have asked that the relationship continue until July 2021 with me in my current role as Executive Headteacher across both schools; a role I am happy to continue and one that the Governors of St. Paul's have agreed to.

I don't believe that, as parents, you will have noticed too much disruption to day-to-day service; albeit with me a little less visual on the gates at drop off or pick up. In order for this to continue to be a success, I have made the decision to make some temporary staffing changes at this point, in order that St. Paul's continues to push itself to be the very best that it can be.

From January, Miss Searles will come out of Beech class and will take on the role of Head of School. This will allow her to take on more day-to-day leadership of the school and be a contact for parents and staff when I am not on site. Miss Searles will continue in her role as Special Educational Needs Coordinator, as well as doing some teaching across school.

Beech class will be taught by Miss Stephanie Taylor. You may remember that Miss Taylor undertook a teaching placement at St. Paul's two years ago, with the current Beech class, with the support of Mr Johnson. I am delighted that we have been able to recruit Miss Taylor; she is a fantastic teacher and one that the children built very strong relationships with, during her time with us. Miss Taylor will have support from Miss Searles, as well as Mrs Keech and Mrs Northover.

Whilst some may see a teacher change as concerning, mid-year, I believe that it will further strengthen the team that we have at St. Paul's. One of my primary aims as Headteacher at this school, has been to recruit and retain the very best staff. It is pleasing that, at a time when high quality teaching staff are very difficult to recruit, we have a full complement of excellent and dedicated teachers in our school.

I will still aim to be at both schools, half a day-every day and am always available via phone or e-mail for those that wish to speak to me.

Miss Taylor will be coming into school between now and the end of the term, to spend some time with Beech class and Miss Searles and there will be a strong handover in the early weeks of next term.

If anyone would like to discuss this with me, please do get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Hulme
Headteacher