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Executive Head J. Eagleton BSc Hons PGCE NPQH

24th June 2024

**Dear Parents and Carers,**

In preparation for the new academic year, recruitment for new staff has taken place and teaching staff have been considering how the classes for the new academic year 2024-2025 will be configured.

Ecclesfield Primary is a two-form entry school and therefore the option of mixing classes is made possible. Mixing classes is considered for a variety of reasons.

**The rationale behind the creation of new classes is carried out by considering the below**

- Redresses the balance of pupil numbers
- Redresses the balance of gender
- Redresses the balance of SEND pupils
- Redresses friendship groupings
- Redresses ability groupings and pupil development
- Redresses the range of different personalities
- Broadens the pupils' experience of working alongside pupils from a range of backgrounds and cultures
- Promotes greater social interaction between the children as they move through the school
- Encourages children to be more resilient and independent

The decisions for the mixing of classes are based on the professional judgements of the class teachers and teaching staff who work alongside the children. The best interests of the children are uppermost in this decision-making process.

The staff's view is that the current **FS classes, Y2 classes and Y4 classes should be mixed.**

*All other classes will stay in their current configuration.*



Teaching staff have talked to the children about their friendships\* over the past few weeks and the children have all been placed with at least one friend who the children themselves have specified.

### \*Friendships

Over the course of their school years, children tend to have a range of friendship experiences. We find that some friendships can be very fluid, whilst others can stand the test of time. With that in mind, school prepares the new class lists by using observations of the children in the classroom and at play to inform our decision making as well as what the children share with adults.

**Transition activities will start this week.**

### Transition Activities

All year groups will be involved in the planned transition activities in June and July to prepare the children for the move to their next class.

### Whole School Transition Events

- Assemblies to focus on changes and transition

### Class Transition Events

- Class assemblies-question and answer sessions
- The children will (at an appropriate level) complete various transition activities with their new teachers. Some of which are listed below:
  - Children will complete a document entitled **“What I wish my teacher knew about me...”**
  - Children will complete a piece of work which will be displayed in their new classrooms with their new teachers
  - The new class teacher(s) will create a new class photograph board.
  - Story time with the new class teacher
  - Playtimes with the new teacher

### Y2 Transition to Y3

As Y2 are moving upstairs to their Y3 classrooms and a new playground area, further transition events will take place for the current Y2.

- Trips around KS2 classrooms
- Playtime in KS2 yards/fields



- Y2/Y3 pupil question time is organised between Year 2 and Year 3
- Y3 children make a 'Welcome to Y3 booklet' for Y2
- Invitation to Y3 teachers to come to Y2 to see the children working
- Taking photos of new classroom and ways of getting there from different areas of school
- Activity afternoon mixing between Year 2 and Year 3 - games and sports

### Parent Transition Events

Visiting the new classes with parents on the open parents' evening on 11th July.

Class meetings will take place on 11th July (4.20pm and 4.55pm). A letter with further details will be sent this week.

### New Staff Starting in September 2024

Mrs Phillippa Robinson will be taking on the position of Head of School at Ecclesfield Primary in September. She is excited to be joining the team at Ecclesfield Primary and she is looking forward to working with the staff, children and parents. Mrs Robinson has worked across the Primary Phase, most recently in EYFS and Year 2. We are looking forward to welcoming her to our school, and please make sure to introduce yourselves to her in September.

Mrs Travers will revert to her substantive post as Assistant Head. I would like to say a huge thank you to Mrs Travers for stepping into the role as Head of School for the past 18 months and supporting the leadership of the school. Miss Latham will assume an Assistant Head role in September to add leadership capacity for a year in the first instance.

Miss Nelson will be taking a Y1 classes. She is excited to take up her teaching position with us. I hope you will join us in welcoming her to the Ecclesfield Primary team.



## Classes and Teachers for 2024-2025 Academic Year

Class 2023-2024	Classes being reconfigured	Classes remaining the same	New Class 2024-2025
F2 Lions			Y1 Miss Nelson
F2 Tigers			or Y1 Miss Barrett
Y1 Sweet			Y2 Mrs Oldham / Mrs Travers Mrs Oldham (Mon, Tues Weds, Friday) Mrs Travers (Thurs, Friday) <i>Mrs Travers will be non-classed based Monday and Tuesday</i>
Y1 Barrett			Y2 Mrs Hill (Mon/Tues/Weds) <i>Recruitment is underway for a teacher to work part time with Mrs Hill on Thursday and Friday</i>
Y2 Hill / Kirman			Y3 Mr Wells
Y2 Hancox / Travers			or Y3 Miss Garner / Mrs Stott Y3 Miss Garner (Mon, Tues, Weds) Y3 Mrs Stott (Thurs, Fri)
Y3 Naylor / Stott			Y4 Miss Robinson
Y3 Garner / Hurst			Y4 Miss Latham
Y4 Latham			Y5 Mr Walker
Y4 Wells			or Y5 Mrs Gething*
Y5 Gething			Y6 Miss Lawrence
Y5 Walker			Y6 Miss Naylor / Mrs Kirman Miss Naylor (Mon, Tues, Weds) Mrs Kirman (Thurs, Fri)

The children will be bringing home a slip today which shows which class they will be in next year.



### *\*Maternity News*

*Congratulations to Mrs Gething who is having a baby and will be taking maternity leave in the Autumn 2 term. The process to recruit a replacement teacher will begin shortly.*

### **Staff Leaving**

- Miss Sweet is moving to Cumbria and then going travelling around the world.
- Mrs Hurst is moving to work as a specialist teacher at a school for children with Special Educational Needs

*We wish both our teachers that are leaving the very best. We will miss them very much.*

*Please do not hesitate to contact school if you have any questions.*

*J. Eagleton*

