

15TH JULY 2024

ST ETHELWOLD'S VA SCHOOL



Our school Vision of Christian values and high expectations will equip our school community with the resilience and skills required to be ambitious, enterprising, healthy and ethical members of society and together we can achieve our core purpose of creating a healthy and positive environment to enjoy the challenge of exploring our world.

Good afternoon and welcome to the final newsletter of the 2023-2024 academic year.

Firstly, I bring you some important staffing news. After a rigorous interviewing process we are pleased to announce the appointments of Miss Gorrell and Miss Pugh as class teachers for 2024-2025. We had an incredibly strong field of candidates which we whittled down to eight and then to two. Miss Gorrell and Miss Pugh both showed exceptional promise and we wholeheartedly welcome them both to our team. We have also appointed a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, Miss McCormick who will be responsible for securing progress for groups of learners as well as being a consistent face to cover any absence of teaching staff. Again, we welcome Miss McCormick to our team and we look forward to working with all three. In another change, Miss Brown is coming out of the classroom to work in our kitchen and we wish her well in that.

We will again operate with three classes next year which will be arranged as follows:

Class1 (Miss Gorrell) Reception and Year 1

Class 2 (Mrs Ellis and Miss Pugh) Years 2 and 3

Class 3 (Mr Griffith) Years 4, 5 and 6

We say goodbye to our Year 6 pupils this week - it is always a bittersweet time. We are privileged to have witnessed them grow into the amazing young people they have become. We are privileged to see them develop their own unique personalities and talents and we are privileged to have been with them through the highs and lows and to have supported them through both.

Year 6 Parents

Walk your child home from school one last time this week, even if they don't want you to. Laugh about the sticks they used to collect or the paintings they so carefully carried. Reminisce about their sports days and how funny they were in their nativity. Tell them how proud you are of them and how excited you are to see them grow. Remember how little their hand was when you held it on the first day of reception. Hold their hand again as you walk with them one last time. You have done a great job.

We are also saying goodbye to Miss Dace, Miss Davies and Mrs Singer and thank them for the wonderful job that they have done this year supporting pupils and the school. Good luck to all three of you in your future ventures.

I am going to take the opportunity here to thank a few people. Firstly, to the incredible staff who go out of their way to make your child's school day special and to make them feel loved and cared for. This group of people are a special bunch of educators and I feel blessed to be part of the team. Secondly to the children. They are an amazing, energetic and incredible group who sometimes exasperate us but more often astonish and wow us with their effort and insight. Lastly I thank you the parents. Parenting does not come with an instruction manual and it is both the most frustrating yet most rewarding thing in the world - thank you for entrusting us with your child's dreams and aspirations, it is a responsibility we hold with great reverence.

We hope that you have a fabulous summer holiday, that the sun shines on you at least for a while (we can live in hope!) and that you spend some time with those that you love.

Monday 2nd September is an INSET day with pupils returning on Tuesday 3rd September.



**May you walk with God this Summer in whatever you do and wherever you go.
May you talk to God this Summer every day and in every situation. May you talk to God everyday.**