

Staffing Changes - now and for September 2025

We are sorry to inform you that Mrs Wilkinson will be retiring at the end of the academic year. She has worked at the school since 2000 when she worked as a TA in the Infants and has worked as a teacher since 2007 in Year 3 and 2 primarily. Hundreds of children have been taught by Mrs Wilkinson during her time with us and she instils a real work ethic in the Y2 children (as well as beautiful handwriting) which stands the children in good stead for the future. She has also been the driving force behind the School Council for many years and the School Council enjoy so many experiences as the result of her efforts to ensure they have so many visitors. This year Mrs Wilkinson has driven the Road Safety campaign too. She has also been very persuasive in encouraging local businesses to support the school. Finally, I have appreciated her commitment to the wider school community through the Friends of, and supporting activities like the Year 6 Sleepover and participating in last year's Germany trip. That kind of dedication is rare! We wish her all the best as she retires to spend time with her family, including her new grandchild.

Her replacement is Miss Coates, who will join us from a school in Sunderland in September for the next academic year. She has already visited the school to learn about our routines. We hope that she will be able to attend the Transition lesson on Tuesday 1st July and the Meet the Teacher session in the evening.

As previously confirmed via email, I am honoured to have been appointed Head Teacher from September following Miss Hemmings' retirement. Having worked at the school since 2007, I am aware of the many strengths of the school and the areas we hope to develop over the next few years. For example, this year staff have focussed on improving OPAL, assessment of foundation subjects and the way we teach writing.

I know many of you already, but if you would like to, I will hold a 'Meet the Head Teacher' session from 4.30pm in the Lower School Hall on the Meet the Teacher afternoon (Tuesday 1st July). This will be an opportunity to find out more about the school's current priorities and how we can further improve it.

Mr Patterson has also been appointed Deputy Head Teacher for September following a successful period supporting the school as Acting Deputy this year.

We would like to thank Mr Rudge for his diligence and commitment to teaching the Y6s this year. He stepped in to support us in October and he has gelled with the existing team and supported the children through their learning this year. We wish him the best in his future endeavours.

We have reorganised the teaching structure in Upper School.

We have appointed Miss Davis, who has been teaching in London, to join the Y3/4 team for the next academic year. Mr Macdonald will return to Lower Key Stage 2 and Mr McIntosh will teach in Y6.

In addition, Mrs Howe has supported the school as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant for the last 2 years and is continuing her journey to becoming a teacher next year. She will complete in-school teacher training and she will be supported in this by Mrs Brotherston, a very experienced teacher and our SENDCo.

Often, due to cohort sizes (which range from 35 to 53) we have to adapt the number of classes in each Key Stage. This means the teaching teams for September will be as follows:

Pre-School (1 class)	Mrs Dunham
Reception (2 classes)	Mrs Geach and Mrs Sparkes
Year 1 (2 classes)	Mrs Howe/Mrs Brotherston and Mrs Davidge
Year 2 (2 classes)	Mrs Brown and Miss Coates

Lower KS2 (3 classes across Y3/4)

Miss Keith, Miss Davis and Mr Macdonald

Upper KS2 (3 classes across Y5/6)

Mrs Morning, Mr Patterson and Mr McIntosh

If your child is in Years 1 to 6, we will write to you again this Friday to inform you which class your child will be in.

Best regards,

Mark Temple
Head Teacher

