



# Newsletter <sub>9</sub> 07/07/2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

This newsletter has lots of information about **ALL** children returning in September and information about your child's new class teacher. In normal times we would arrange for the new teacher to meet their new class before the summer holidays. Sadly, we cannot do that this year due to the limits we have on numbers of children in the building. Instead, next week every child will receive a letter from their new teacher, so look out for it!

## [Goodbye to some of our great teachers:](#)

There are some changes in the staff team as sadly Caroline is moving to another part of the country and a new school as year 6 teacher and MFL lead. Serach has been promoted to Assistant Headteacher in a school in Lewisham. Natalee and Salma leave to develop their careers in new settings. Wanda, the French teacher has decided to return to secondary school language teaching. Obviously, it is always sad to lose colleagues who have been with us for some time but we pass on our appreciation and huge thanks for their work here and wish them well in their new roles.

We additionally have two teachers who will be on maternity leave, Lucy and Alix.

## [Hello to our new teachers:](#)

With this in mind we welcome seven fantastic teachers to the school:

Tia Coakley and Kerrie Sivell who will join us in Reception  
Emily Metcalfe in year 1  
Pavan Singh in year 2  
Jamie McQuilian in year 3  
Jyothi Misiri in year 4  
Daniel Hoddinut in year 5

These colleagues bring an incredibly strong skill set to the school and I am sure you will, like us all, welcome them to Duncombe.

The new class list is below. The current year 4 classes have been mixed slightly to provide balance but all other class groupings remain the same.

Reception	Kerry - Judith Kerr class	Tia- Tony Ross
Year 1	Judith Kerr class move to year 1 with <b>Saffa</b> as their teacher.	Tony Ross class move to year 1 class with <b>Emily</b> as their teacher
Year 2	Francis Drake class move to year 2 with <b>Ruth</b> as their teacher.	Ernest Shakleton move to year 2 with <b>Pav</b> as their teacher
Year 3	Marie Curie class move to year 3 with <b>Alex</b> as their teacher	Florence Nightingale move to year 3 with <b>Jamie</b> as their teacher
Year 4	Isaac Newton class move to year 4 with <b>Ruth</b> as their teacher	Michael Faraday move to year 4 with <b>Jyothi</b> as the teacher.
<b>Year 5</b>	Charlotte Bronte move to year 5 with <b>Kate</b> and <b>Nazia</b> as their teacher.	William Shakespeare move to year 5 with <b>Daniel</b> .
Year 6	Emily Pankhurst moves to year 6 with <b>Paulina</b> .	Nelson Mandela class moves to year 6 with <b>Eugene</b> .

### School pods update:

It has been lovely seeing so many children from all year groups returning to school since June 8th. On average we have had 120 children in a day. All the children are washing their hands several times a day, following the new one way system and enjoying their lunch in their 'pods'. We are very confident that our new systems in school can be levelled up for the September opening, to ensure that we follow the strict procedures set out by the DFE. Here are some of the main changes below:

### Returning to school September 3rd

School returns for ALL children on Thursday 3rd September at 8.50am (KS2) and 8.55am (KS1). Children will be in 'year pods', so they will not be mixing with other year groups. Timetables for the playground will be staggered and there will be no assemblies or performances for the first term at least. Parents of KS2 children must drop at the gate to ensure that we keep to the social distancing rules. There will always be SLT at the gate and a rota of teachers so you will be able to pass messages on. Parents of KS1 and reception/nursery are welcome to come into the infant playground but you must stay on the markings and not cross the line. All plans for Health and Safety are being reviewed and a risk assessment will be on the website for you to view next week.

**Early closure on Friday's throughout 2020/2021 academic year:**

To manage the new Covid arrangements we have had to reduce the number of adults that would normally cover for the teacher's planning and assessment time (PPA). Also, to ensure that we minimise the risk of a Covid outbreak we need the building to have deep clean once a week. So, school will close for all pupils *every Friday at 1pm*. This time will be used for teacher PPA time and to deep clean the school once a week. Working parents who cannot collect early on Friday's should contact the office before the end of term (17th July) so that we can make arrangements for small groups on Friday afternoons. This will be for working parent's children only.

I will send more information out about school reopening procedures next week. Thank you for your patience in this very challenging time. I cannot wait to have the whole school back and focus on their learning and personal development.

Best wishes and stay healthy,

Helen and all the staff at Duncombe Primary School.