



Worthington Primary School

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"We Only Reach for The Highest"

Wednesday 8th September 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

To all of you who begin your association with Worthington, welcome. To everyone who is returning back to school, welcome back! I certainly hope that this year is a complete one, which sees every child in school learning every day.

I do hope you had a wonderful summer – it certainly has been a bonus to return in such terrific weather.

It was such a tonic to see all the children arrive back this week and to witness things gradually move back to what we might call 'normal'. It is enormously gratifying, for example, to see children working together at tables, rather than working in rows, and for us to be able once again to physically gather together in assembly.

I am conscious though that the pandemic is not over and indeed we have had positive cases already in school just this week. As you are all aware now, the rules concerning class closures have been altered, but we must still be cautious and indeed mindful that there may well be a rise in positive cases over the coming weeks.

That is why we will provide out '**Meet the Teacher**' information via our school website by the end of next week. For those new to school, our 'Meet the Teacher' evening has been an opportunity to find out more about what goes on in your child's class and to gather information about the weekly routines and curriculum. At this moment in time, I do not feel it appropriate to open the classrooms to up to 60 parents for an event that may result in a number of positive cases. If this was to happen, Trafford Public Health would potentially reintroduce tighter restrictions on school.

I shall contact you all when the information is available to view online.

Parent Pay

In an attempt to reduce paper usage, I rely on our Parent Pay system to communicate with you all. Please do enroll on the system if you have not already done so. The system not only enables you to receive up to date information from us but also gives you the opportunity to pay for such things as school dinners and trips remotely, thereby saving us all time, effort and ultimately, money.

If you have any difficulty in enrolling on the system, please do speak to either member of the school office team (Mrs. Brncic or Miss Hughes) who will be pleased to assist you there and then.

School Staffing Structure following the expansion of our school to a two-form entry primary

Such a lot has happened since we grew from a 40 to a 60-pupil place per year group school in January 2021. It took such a short space of time for school to fill. Looking back over my records, there were 357 children attending school in July 2020, today that figure has reached 439. If I do not count nursery figures (which always fluctuate), we now have only seven available spaces in main school.

With such a rapid and large expansion amounting to a 23% increase in pupil numbers, the governors and senior leaders have adjusted the internal staffing numbers and structure, which I wanted to explain in more detail than I did in my letter back in the summer term which outlined the changes we had made.

Mrs Astell has joined the teaching staff this week. She is teaching our Year 4 Blue class. Mrs Astell trained with us and excelled during that time. We know that she will prove an excellent class teacher and welcome her to the staff of the school.

Welcome too to Mrs Atkinson, Miss Bradburn and Mrs McDonald. These staff members have joined us as teaching assistants and will work within school every morning. Each bring great experience and skill to the role and have settled in so quickly.

Mrs Chatterton, our deputy headteacher has slightly reduced her teaching commitment to enable her to take an even greater leadership and management role. She still has an overview of Key Stage Two development.

Mrs Creswell remains head of Early Years (nursery and reception) and Mrs Best remains head of Key Stage One (years 1 and 2). Both these members of staff have become assistant headteachers with a greater leadership and management role.

Mr Fenton (year 3 teacher) has become head of Lower Key Stage Two (years 3 and 4) and Miss Bate (year 6 teacher) has become head of Upper Key Stage Two (years 5 and 6).

Giving you this information may make contacting the right person easier. After speaking with your child's class teacher in the first instance, he or she may then follow up your conversation with their head of department.

Yours



Mr. C. Searle