

Great Whelnetham
Church of England Primary School
By growing together, we become the best we can be'

Chair of Governors: Kim Palmer Interim Headteacher: Ian Page
Telephone: 01284 386203
Stanningfield Road, Great Whelnetham
Bury St. Edmunds, IP30 0UA



8 July 2019

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Class structure for September 2019

Thank you to all of you who have spoken to us about class arrangements from September. We thought it would be useful to write with further information about the mixed age class structure.

As you will be aware many schools are facing difficulties with funding. This sometimes necessitates difficult decisions having to be made. Although Great Whelnetham is reducing to five classes in September our absolute priority was ensuring the highest level of adult support for every child in each class. Within the restructuring we have been able to maintain a very high level of support staff with most classes next year having two teaching assistants. In a time when lots of schools are reducing support for children we are proud to be able to offer this.

We can also confidently assure you that within these arrangements we have been able to allocate the best teachers for each class. We are really pleased to be welcoming Ms. Wedderburn as our Early Years and Year One teacher and, following on from the previous Ofsted inspection, plans are well under way to transform this provision. We have listened to requests from parents and pupils and the class Ms Wedderburn will teach will be named Larks Class.

Our teaching staff have experience of teaching mixed aged classes and it is a specialism of the Senior Leadership Team within the school. Mixed age classes are a well-established teaching method in many settings and within the All Saints Schools Trust seven schools have mixed aged classes throughout the school and achieve great success each year with this structure.

The staff have been working hard to plan our curriculum for the next academic year. We are really excited by this and look forward to teaching exciting topics and lessons. We firmly believe that a stimulating curriculum leads to highly engaged pupils who can have fun whilst learning. This includes educational visits and linked activities that will be built into the curriculum planning.

The forthcoming year will see further progress and we look forward to working with All Saints Schools Trust to further develop the education that our children and staff receive. We can confirm that from September, even if there is a delay to the conversion, Mrs. Barrow will be taking up the post of Executive Headteacher and Ms. Wallis the post of Head of School forming our new leadership team. Mrs. Barrow will also be the school SENDCo.

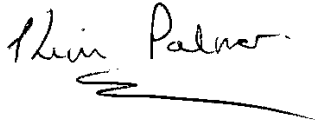
Email: office@greatwhelnetham.co.uk

School website: <http://www.greatwhelnetham.suffolk.sch.uk/website>

Values for Life: Compassion, Courage, Friendship, Trust, Truthfulness, Hope, Peace, Thankfulness, Creativity, Forgiveness, Humility and Justice.

Finally, we all appreciate all of you who have met with Mrs. Barrow or Mr. Page already. Please continue to request appointments and speak to us if you have further concerns – our door is always open. We look forward to continuing to work with you to keep improving Great Whelnetham for the benefit of our children.

Yours sincerely



Mrs. K. Palmer
Chair of Governors,
On behalf of the
Governing Body of Great Whelnetham CEVCP School



Mrs. M. Barrow
CEO- All Saints Schools Trust

