



Thursday 9th July 2020

Dear Parents,

I hope you are all well. Usually the letter I write at this time of year provides parents with all kinds of information about statutory tests, attendance marks, Exhibition Evening and the like, so it is very strange not to be sharing any of this with you. We are also very saddened not to be opening our gates on Saturday for our annual Summer Fete and not to be marking the end of another school year with our Summer Music Concert and Year 6 Production. However, it has been lovely to have so many more children back in school over the past month and we are all really looking forward to seeing those children who we last saw in March, when they come in for their 'Goodbye/Hello' session today and over the coming days. Fingers crossed for sunny weather! Come what may, we know it will be lovely to be back together again, albeit form a safe social distance!

I am writing to confirm your child's class and teacher for next academic year and provide you with some important updates. This information about your child's new class is provided in the table at the end of this letter. All teachers, including those who are new to Barrow Hedges, will be there to meet with their new class and are looking forward to this. In addition, each class teacher has made a short video which will be posted on to Tapestry/Google Classroom next Wednesday 15th July. We recognise that usually parents and children can meet their new teacher in person at Exhibition Evening so thought this would be beneficial for you.

Transition from one year to the next is always important, but even more so this year, given the current situation. We have therefore dedicated a great deal of time to recruitment and deciding on the most effective allocation of teaching staff possible. In addition to this, we have prioritised a thorough handover from teacher to teacher; again this includes those new teachers who are joining our team.

At this time of year it is usual to say farewell to some members of staff. This year we say goodbye to Miss Jess Edwards who is taking a one year secondment opportunity to work at one of the other schools within our Trust, Wallington Primary Academy, securing a position on their senior leadership team. We know that Miss Edwards is really excited about this new challenge. We also say goodbye to Mrs Jenny Rawlinson who is moving to live and teach in East Sussex. Mrs Hannah Genco is leaving our school too, as, following her maternity leave, she will be taking up a part time role at another one of our Trust schools, Avenue Primary Academy. Each of these teachers joined our school in 2014 and have given so much to Barrow Hedges and played a key role in the improvements we have made

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over this time. Miss Taz Kim is also leaving Barrow Hedges as she and her family are moving to China. Miss Kim has also made a positive contribution to our team in the two years she has been with us. I am sure you will join me in wishing these members of staff all the very best for the future. You already know that Mrs Duncan is expecting her second baby in August and we therefore wish her well at this exciting time. Best wishes also to Miss Duffin who is getting married in the summer holidays and returns as Mrs Duffin.

In addition to welcoming Mrs Michelle Rondeau, who I referred to in my previous letter, we are delighted that Miss Marianne Wilson will be returning to her substantive position as Assistant Headteacher next week. She will now be working part time. Miss Becky Cheetham and Mrs Janine Covey also continue their roles as Assistant Headteachers. We are also pleased that the following new class teachers will be joining our team in September – all three will be working in Key Stage 2: Miss Zoe Hine, Miss Kimberley Rayment and Mr Duncan Woolford

As you will see from the following table, Mrs Sarah Woods, is going to be returning to teach in Key Stage 1, which I know she is excited about. Next year we will have one morning Nursery class which existing members of staff will lead. We are currently exploring the feasibility of being able to offer 30 hours provision. Another update is that we have taken the decision to offer more places in Key Stage 2 so that eventually each Key Stage 2 class will have 32 pupils. This will be a phased increase whereby only next year's Year 3 and 4 *may* have more children join them (dependent on offers made being accepted), with the same offer being made to forthcoming Year 3 cohorts thereafter.

With the government guidance about September being released last Thursday, we are currently working through our risk assessments and plans for the new academic year. What I can say is that we are pleased that from the work we have done so far, it seems that we can return to slightly more normality than we had first thought. Children will be taught in full class sizes and work within a year group bubble. At this stage I am unable to share with you all the other details as it takes a lot of planning and preparation – there will most likely be a need for staggered start and end of day times, breaktimes, playtimes etc, as well as other adaptations to the usual timetable. We are unlikely to be able to offer after school clubs during the first half term. We are yet to confirm whether Hedgerows will be able to run straight away too. But, as stated in my letter of 30th June, I won't be able to write with final details about all of this just yet. The continued provision for children of critical workers and the return to school for some of our year groups has been successful and we know that is because of the careful thought given to this. This took the full three weeks from the time re-opening schools was announced on 10th May to when more children returned. We now need to apply this approach on a much wider scale and have lots to consider. It is most likely that I will continue to write to you over the summer holidays as I want to ensure that you are all well informed about the new academic year. Thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Finally, a reminder that your child's end of year school report (along with some other relevant documents) will be sent to you next week, via PMX.

Kind regards,



Mrs Louise Wood (Headteacher)

[Class and Teacher Allocation Table follows on page 3...](#)

Current Class 19/20	Class Teacher(s) for 2020/2021	New Class Name 20/21
-	Mrs Janine Covey (<i>Early Years Foundation Stage Leader</i>)	Fox (Reception)
-	Miss Carmen Cheung	Hedgehog (Reception)
-	Mrs Tina Bennett	Badger (Reception)
Hedgehog	Miss <u>Abi Doble</u> (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Otter (Year 1)
Fox	Mrs Sarah Woods	Rabbit (Year 1)
Badger	Mrs Sam McGinley	Squirrel (Year 1)
Rabbit	Mr Joe Pearce (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Woodpecker (Year 2)
Squirrel	Miss <u>Abi Swinfield</u>	Kingfisher (Year 2)
Otter	Miss Hannah Potter	Robin (Year 2)
Woodpecker	Miss Cat Davies (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Ash (Year 3)
Kingfisher	Miss Lizzie Holmes	Oak (Year 3)
Robin	Miss Zoe Hine *	Elm (Year 3)
Oak	Mr Luke Buckingham (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Lime (Year 4)
Elm	Mr Duncan Woolford *	Walnut (Year 4)
Ash	Mr Charlie Shaw / Mrs Hannah Nutley **	Maple (Year 4)
Walnut	Miss <u>Rebecca Cheetham</u> *** (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Beech (Year 5)
Maple	Miss <u>Kimberley Rayment</u> *	Rowan (Year 5)
Lime	Miss Beth Campbell	Cedar (Year 5)
Beech	Miss Katie Lucas (<i>Year Group Leader</i>)	Sycamore (Year 6)
Rowan	Miss <u>Beki Swinfield</u>	Willow (Year 6)
Cedar	Mrs <u>Kim Duffin</u>	Chestnut (Year 6)
<p>Other teachers who teach some subjects to Year 1 to Year 6 classes are:</p> <p>Mrs Kelly Wallis, Mrs Karen <u>Cutts-Munro</u>, Ms Rebecca <u>Pericleous</u> and Miss <u>Ayla Zafer</u>. Madame Wilson teaches French to Years 4, 5 and 6.</p>		

*New teacher to the school

All classrooms will be in the same location as this year.

**This will be a job share. Mr Shaw will be teaching the class on Mondays and Tuesdays. Mrs Nutley will be teaching the class on Wednesday mornings, Thursdays and Fridays. Both teachers will have Wednesday afternoon together (along with their Year 4 team colleagues) for their statutory Planning, Preparation and Assessment (PPA) time so this means there will be excellent communication and planning between the two teachers.

*** Miss Ayla Zafer will teach Beech class on a Wednesday as Miss Cheetham has this day to focus on her roles and responsibilities as Assistant Headteacher and Maths Leader.