



St Barnabas C of E Primary School
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"Barnabas, the Encourager"

Headteacher: Miss K Boardman (BSc Hons)

5th July 2017

Dear Parents/Carers

Class Arrangements

Today children have had a session with their new teacher in their new classes.

There is a slight change to the arrangements that were sent out a few weeks ago in that we have decided to have a single Year 6 class with a mixed Y3/4 and Y4/5 class instead of all mixed classes in Key Stage 2.

Class	Simmonds	Malala	Edison	Luther-King	Shakespeare	Anderson
Year Groups	Rec	Y1	Y2	Y3/4	Y4/5	Y6
Teacher	Miss Curry	Mr Cumming	Mr Hazeldine	Mrs Mann Other*	Miss Connolly	Ms Woolgar

*(details to follow next week)

If your child is moving into Year 4, information about their class has been sent out separately.

As you can see, some classes are mixed ages as is the norm for St Barnabas. The way in which we mix the year groups varies from year to year according to pupil numbers and needs. When we mix ages, we consider very carefully the best group for each child to be in. Every year, however, we hear parents saying that children are 'kept down' or 'moved up'. This is absolutely not the case and it is unhelpful for children to hear this language.

Many parents ask why we need to mix ages in classes, especially now that we have more classroom space. This is linked to the sizes of our year groups and the way that schools are funded. Some of our year groups contain approximately 20 children as our admissions number has been 20 pupils for a number of years due to the size of the building before our extension last year. The funding that comes into school generally supports an average of one teacher per 27-30 children. Having classes of 20 or fewer children (single age classes) throughout the school cannot be afforded even if we have the space to put the classes in. It will still take a while for us to fill up to the position where we can choose to have all single age classes if we wish. Children still spend one year in each year group regardless of which class they are in.

Teachers have non-contact time which is covered in a variety of ways and you will be informed about the details of this for your child's class in September. Most teaching assistants will each have a class that they are linked to but may also work with children from other classes too.

Please do not hesitate to speak to me if you have any questions about these class arrangements.

Rest of the term

The **Family Picnic, Sports Day and PTA Summer Fair** will be held on Friday 14th July starting from 12 noon. Further details are attached.

There will be no Celebration Assembly on 14th July. The last one will be on 21st July. Thank you to those who have attended them this year. It is always lovely to celebrate the children's achievements with you.

There are no clubs after Thursday 13th July.

The **Leavers' Disco** will take place on Monday 24th July, 6-7pm for FS and KS1, 7:30-8:45pm for Key Stage 2. More information to follow.

The **Leavers' Service** will take place on Tuesday 25th July at 1:45pm in Church. We hope you will join us as we say 'Goodbye and good luck to our Year 6 pupils'.

Finally.....

Thank you for all your support over this year. I hope that you have a very relaxing and sunny summer break. The Holiday Club is open most of the holidays – booking are essential.

School begins again for all children on **Tuesday 5th September.**

Best wishes

Miss K Boardman
Headteacher