

ST CHAD'S PATCHWAY CE VC PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Tuesday 26th June 2018

Re: next year's teachers, next year's classrooms, starting information for September.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Your child's next teacher

I am sure you will be aware that your child/ren will have spent time with their new teacher today, in their new class setting.

This is of course an exciting time, but with still almost 4 (very full) weeks to go, you can appreciate why we have not laboured the changes too much with the children yet as we all still have a lot to do in those weeks and we want them to make the most of their time in their current class rather than thinking about their next class.

Below is the list of the teachers and classrooms for the academic year 2018 - 2019. It is hoped that meeting with the teacher today and sharing this information will go some way to calming inevitable nerves of 'new' and help your child have a mental image of their new class and teacher.

<i>Year</i>	<i>Next year's teacher and room</i>	<i>Previous teacher (where multiple classes)</i>
EYFS / Reception	Miss B Davies (current room)	
Y1	Miss L Davies (current room)	
Y2	Miss H Parsons (current room)	
Y3	Mrs S Lomax and Mrs B Dobson (current room)	
Y4	Mrs Harvey (current room)	
Y5	Miss V Isaac (Mrs Medway's current room)	
Y6R	Miss K Legg (current room)	Current 5L (Mrs Medway)
Y6L	Mrs L Medway (Mrs Jenkins / Mrs Yates current room)	Current 5R (Mrs Hachani)

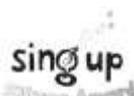
Staff leavers and joiners

This year we are saying goodbye to Michaela Excell who has worked in a one to one capacity for two years and as the child she has been working with is leaving, we are sad to say she is leaving us as well. She has been a great asset to the school and we'll all miss her.

Both Mrs Jo Hachani and Mrs Jo Yates will be leaving us at the end of this academic year as both have gained well deserved promotions as Maths Leader in Marshfield Primary School and Lead Teacher in Westbury on Trym Primary School respectively. Mrs Hachani has worked here since 2008 and Mrs Yates since 2005. Both teachers have had a hugely positive impact on the lives of many children in St Chad's and I know you join us in wishing them well in their futures.

Lastly, we have Mrs Steph Jenkins due to start her maternity leave at the start of the summer holidays. We wish her all the best and can't wait to see photos and the baby itself! She will be returning at the end of November.

All of the above are excellent staff members and great people. They are well-liked by everyone and think of the combined number of children that they have supported over their time at St Chad's! We wish them all the very best of luck and know they will go on to do well in their futures and are proud of their achievements. Their final day will be the final day of this academic year; Friday 20th July, which is an INSET day (although the staff, including those leaving still have to come!), so **their last day with pupils will be on Thursday 19th July.**



We are pleased to welcome Miss Vicky Isaac who joins us as an experienced Year 5 teacher, currently working in Somerset. She will be teaching our soon to be new Year 5 in September. She is a superb teacher, with glowing references and I know she is going to be an asset to the school. Miss Isaac really enjoyed meeting her new class this morning.

Things to know for the first day back.

It might seem a long time until we start back in September, but I wanted to make sure that everyone is aware of some of the back to school things to think about on the first day back. You all know (letter sent out earlier this year) that we will **start back on Monday September 3rd**. The **first INSET day is on Friday 12th October** and the **first holiday runs from Saturday 27th October to Sunday 4th November inclusive**. Hopefully this will help you plan your holidays / time off work. For more information please see <http://www.stchadsprimaryschool.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/INSET-dates-for-2018-19.pdf>.

The first day after any holiday is especially busy and the return in September is probably one of the busiest mornings of the year for us all, especially the office. I suggest that unless it is urgent, you find another way to communicate, perhaps a letter either to the office or the class teacher (via your child). This will enable the office staff to deal with those issues which are really urgent. Of course we are more than happy to speak with you, but this is just to alert you of the fact that despite staff's best efforts, the first day back in September will bring a very long queue at the office hatch!

Please make sure your child has all of the items they might need, such as PE kits, water bottles, etc for the first day as they won't know their timetables at this point and may need them.

Dinners.

Please remember that if your child is moving from year 2 into year 3, they will no longer be eligible for the Universal Free School Meals and you will need to buy any hot meals that you wish to have. Please see our website for more details on how to do this.

Pick up and drop off.

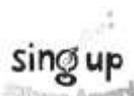
It is very daunting to make their way through a crowd of adults and for the new Reception class it is an especially scary time. We appreciate that you may wish to say goodbye to your children at that gate, however please make sure that children are able to get to the gates by standing in a way that does not block the gates or the walk to the gates for the children.

School staff are on duty from 8.50 with the start of school being at 9.00. Any child on site before this point will not be supervised (unless they are requested to be on site by a member of staff, for example as a morning helper). At 8.50, once a child has said goodbye to their parents, they will go to the playground where they will have a 10 minute playtime, monitored by school staff on duty. At 9.00 the bell is rung, all teachers are ready on the playground in their class's 'line up spot' (children will have been shown this before breaking up and will be supported to remember this on the first few days). Once lined and ready to start, they will be brought in by their teachers.

As you will know, **Reception children** are met at the front green gate by their teacher at the start of the day and at the end of the day dismissed to parents / carers from the door on the left of the building through the black gates.

By the end of the Reception year, most children come through the green gates on their own, say hello to their teacher and then make their way to the playground. For **Year One children** as our current reception will soon become, they will be expected to do this; say goodbye at the green gate and make their way to the playground in the morning. We are aware that this is something that will need home input as well as school to ensure they are ready to do this and we hope you will discuss this with your child in terms of them being more grown up and how proud we all are to see them achieve this and please see below to see how this process develops as they move through school. We know that a six week summer break can have an impact and to ease this transition, for the first couple of weeks the year one class teacher will stand on the green gate and greet the children. By the time the new reception children are in full time (approximately two weeks) the year one children are more than able to make their own way to the playground where staff are present, and the class teacher will stop meeting them at the gate, instead meeting them on the playground to bring them in. It is worth remembering that the children who are currently in EYFS / Reception (soon to be year 1) *all* say goodbye at the gate and find their own way onto the playground already, so this is no change.

At the end of the day, **Year One children** will be similarly dismissed one at a time to their parents from their classroom's external door (in the same areas as the Reception Children are dismissed).



Year Two children come through the green gates in the morning and make their own way to the playground (usually after saying hello to staff on the gates!) and are greeted on the playground by the staff on duty as explained above. At the end of the day, they will be dismissed from their classroom one at a time to their parent or carer.

Year Three children are now in the *juniors* and of course we further support their independent development. At the start of the day, the process is the same as in year two. The year 3 classroom for this year will be the left hand side of the terrapins. At the end of the day, the pupils will be dismissed down the ramp and out through the far green gates, not the ones that we all say goodbye at in the morning! Parents usually wait outside the classrooms on the tarmacked area at the end of the day. At the start of the year, the class teachers will come out with the class and be there to emotionally and literally support the children as they acclimatise into finding their own adult. Work will be done in class to explain the process to the children, how to find their adult, what to do if they are worried or if they cannot find their parent and so on. Of course the class teacher will be watching, but there is an increased onus on the pupil to responsibly find their pick up person. This leads them to the following years as described below.

Year Four to Six similarly leave their adults at the green gates in the mornings as described above. In the afternoon, Year Four to Six pupils are dismissed from their classrooms and will make their own way to their pick up adults / or walk home.

In September, each class teacher will send out a letter detailing the topics being covered that term along with more specific information about timings for activities such as PE slots and swimming if that is applicable to your child.

If you have any further questions please ask at the office or your current class teacher who will help. For now, we wish your child/ren a happy final few weeks in their current classes and wish you all a sun filled, enjoyable summer.

Yours sincerely,

All of the staff at St Chad's Primary School.

