



Archbishop Courtenay Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs S Heather
Chair of Governors: R O'Connell

Friday 2nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

This is our final term of the academic year and I wanted to provide you with some important information before we return in September 2021.

From September there will be some staff changes. Mrs Bone will be leaving Archbishop Courtenay Primary School to take up another position within the Academy. Mrs Bone has been my right hand lady since I arrived in September and such a support not only to myself, but also to the children and staff. We wish her every success for the future and thank her for leading the school with such kindness over the last 2 years.

After eight years at Archbishop Courtenay, in order to spend time with his wife and family, Mr Parker has decided to hang up his paintbrushes and retire at the end of August. Mr Parker is a well-loved member of the school community and I know we will all miss him very much indeed.

Miss Flisher will be starting a new teaching role, she has had a huge impact at school as PE Leader. It is thanks to Miss Flisher we have been able to offer a wide range of sporting opportunities for all of us to enjoy! Miss Sutherland is embarking on a new challenge in September and we wish her well on her journey – I am sure she will keep us updated on her adventures. Finally, we say au revior to Miss Kaur, she has only been a Teaching Assistant with us for a short time, but she has loved it so much she has decided to begin her Teacher Training. Maybe we will see her again when she qualifies!

I know you will join me in thanking Mrs Bone, Mr Parker, Miss Flisher, Miss Sutherland and Miss Kaur for their dedication and contribution to our wonderful school. We wish them lots of luck!

We have appointed a new Deputy Headteacher, Mrs Jodie Bond. I am very excited to welcome Mrs Bond to our school family, she will be a wonderful addition to our staff and I know she too is looking forward to meeting you all very soon.

Joining our Early Years Team is Mrs Claire Maskell, she will be supporting Mrs Eades with our Reception children. She is a very experienced practitioner and she is very much looking forward to meeting all the children in the coming weeks.

Miss Rachel Brown will be working with our Lower Key Stage 2 Team from September. She is very excited and she has already visited school to meet the children.

We are delighted to welcome back Mrs Gayle Barker, she was a volunteer at the school a little while ago and enjoyed it so much she is returning to take up an HLTA position. Mrs Barker will be based in a class, but she will also offer support across the school.

Details of classes will be shared with parents on Tuesday 13th July when you will also receive your son or daughter's school report.

Uniform

To help us achieve our goals we believe that our school uniform plays a key role in promoting pride, self-confidence, and a feeling of belonging at school. These factors contribute to our children's wellbeing, removing the additional pressures of deciding what to wear and the added stress of meeting the expectations of their friends.

You may recall I sent a letter home last November, allowing children to wear black uniform for **this academic year only** as some parents found it difficult to find grey clothes, which was due to lockdown. However, from September 2021 we are reverting back to our original uniform colours so please can you ensure school uniform consist of either a **grey skirt, grey pinafore, grey trousers or grey shorts**. Our new mannequins, Archie and Courtney, are on display in our reception area, beautifully dressed in our official school uniform so please pop in and visit for some inspiration.



For more details of our school uniform please visit:

<https://www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk/uniform-information/>

PE Kit

From September 2021 we will continue to allow children to attend school on their PE day in their full PE kit. We will ensure you are notified of the relevant day's as soon as possible. However, please make sure your child wears the correct PE kit.

The correct PE uniform as shown on our mannequin, Mary, is as follows:



- Plain Black Shorts (no logos or markings)
- Plain Black Tracksuit Bottoms (no logos or markings)
- Plain Black Trainers or Plimsolls
- *School Jumper
- *PE Bag
- *NEW School Hoodie (PE only)
- *House Colour T-Shirt:

Faith – Red

Hope – Green

Pride – Blue

Courage – Yellow

* Available to purchase from www.brigade.uk.com.

Bags

Space in our cloakrooms is very limited so we are asking parents to ensure their children are not bringing huge rucksacks to school. You can purchase book bags, document bags, PE bags and small rucksacks all for a very reasonable price on www.brigade.uk.com

Attendance

It is vital that pupils attend **school**, on time, every day in order to gain the greatest benefit from their education. 95% - 100% (less than 10 days absence in a year) is **good attendance**. 95% is the national average **attendance** rate for a child at **Primary School**, we hope to achieve 97%. Without regular attendance, levels of attainment suffer and opportunities are missed to obtain maximum benefit from learning. Persistent absence and lateness will affect a child's achievement and progress in school.

As a school we have a duty to inform you of your child's absence and each term we will contact families whose children's attendance is below 90%. Our intention is to work closely with parents and carers to offer support and this is where our beloved Mrs Gooding comes in. Her role is to liaise and find solutions for families who maybe facing difficulties getting their children to school. Of course, we understand that children are sometimes poorly and need to stay at home. If this is the case please call school before 9am and speak with Mrs Gooding or the ladies in the Office.

Once we know the Government's decision regarding Covid19 restrictions, we will confirm the start and end of day school times for September 2021.

Behaviour



Archbishop Courtney has a very positive approach to behaviour. However, we expect all children to behave with respect, kindness and courtesy- following our school values Aspiration, Compassion, Friendship, Respect and Resilience. To create a harmonious learning environment, where pupils are able to self-regulate their own behaviour and learning, we use restorative justice techniques to provide children with the opportunity to work together with an adult to resolve issues. The children have created their own behaviour expectations **Be Ready**, **Be Respectful**, **Be Safe!**

A NEW Home School Agreement will be making its way to you very soon.

We would be very grateful if all parents reinforced these expectations at home, to make sure all our richly unique and diverse children are safe, happy and resilient at school.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your kindness and support. Both myself, the entire School Team, along with the School's Governing Body, are passionate about making Archbishop Courtenay Primary School a place of excellence for all our children.

This year has been a particularly challenging year for the whole world, let alone our school community, yet we have managed to make so many positive changes. Having such a dedicated team, I am more than confident the school will continue to flourish, especially with our parents supporting our ambitions – this alone makes such a difference to the morale and motivation of the staff and pupils. We will continue to offer a safe haven for all children; celebrate their differences and strive to prepare them for the next stage in their education by using our school and the British values to anchor them as model citizens.

Please remember we are not only here to look after the children but also look after our parents and carers. Our door is always open!

Yours truly,

Sue Heather
Headteacher