



ARCHBISHOP COURTENAY CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Eccleston Road, Tovil, Maidstone, Kent ME15 6QN

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs J Ashley-Jones

Acting Head of School: Mrs S Bone

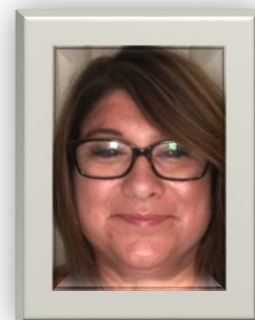
Chair of Governors: Mrs R Linn

14th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

My name is Mrs Sue Heather and I am delighted at being appointed to the role of Headteacher at Archbishop Courtenay Primary School (ABC). I wanted to have this opportunity to briefly introduce myself to you, and to express my enthusiasm for the exciting times ahead.

I am currently the Head of School at St Michael's Church of England Junior School, just over the river. I have had five happy and successful years in this role and although I'll be sad to leave, I am ready and excited for the challenge ahead.



I am originally from South East London, growing up in the London Borough of Lewisham, however my family and I have been living in Kent for almost twelve years. I am married and have three grown up children, Matthew is 20, Emilie is 23 and Rhiannon is 28 we have 3 dogs Gary, Dave and Mabel – Mabel is a tiny lady and she is my 'school' dog, often coming into St Michael's with me – she supported children who needed a cuddle and provided much enjoyment for not only the children, but the staff too – I hope that she will be allowed to visit ABC now and again.

During lockdown I discovered gardening so this helps me relax – I also don't mind watching the occasional game of football...but living locally means I am often out and about in Town so please stop and say hello if you see me!



My philosophy for education is one which is based around the statement of the 'best for every child'. I hold a strong child centred approach to teaching, where consistency, praise, encouragement yet challenge is key. I believe that all children are amazing and have unique potential waiting to be unlocked - it is a privilege, as a teacher and a leader, to be able to inspire, enthuse, motivate and nurture children to fully achieve this. I am passionate and committed to my core values that include honesty, respect, integrity and determination. However, I also recognise as a Church of England School our distinct Christian character, and school values are essential to our everyday lives. Therefore, I will be outlining further my ideas and vision for the future of the school in due course. However, please know that your input and that of your children, along with the staff will be invaluable. As parents and carers you play such a significant role in supporting your children's learning and guiding them successfully on their school journey so I am keen to know how together we can build



on the excellent work I know is already taking place within Archbishop Courtenay - that way we can continue its development and improve the school even further.

With this in mind, I will be sending home a questionnaire for you to complete when we all return to school in September. Nevertheless, I will also be there to greet you every morning and say goodbye at the end of every day so please come and share with me your thoughts and ideas – I am keen to listen!

I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff and governors of ABC, who have already made such a positive impression on me during my recent visits and made me feel incredibly welcome. Seeing their enthusiasm and love of their school made it an easy decision to want to be your new Headteacher. It goes without saying that I want to build on the good work currently being done in school, which has been led so well by Mrs Bone and Mrs Ashley-Jones. The energy and enthusiasm the staff team demonstrate is something I have already noticed and am excited about!

Over the last few weeks we have been busy planning for the children's return to school on 2nd September and now these are completed a letter sharing our plans will be coming home to you shortly.

I very much look forward to getting to know you and all your children and I am visiting ABC regularly in order to be ready for the challenges ahead to successfully lead the school forward.

Have a wonderful summer and see you very soon!

Best wishes



Sue Heather

