



Archbishop Courtenay Church of England Primary School

Eccleston Road
Tovil
Maidstone
Kent
ME15 6QN

☎ 01622 754666
✉ office@abc.aquilatrust.co.uk
🌐 www.archbishopcourtenay.org.uk
Headteacher: Mrs S Heather
Chair of Governors: R O'Connell

Monday 11th July 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

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

From September there will be some staff changes.

Mrs Irvine will be leaving our ABC family after 11 years! Originally, working as a Teaching Assistant before embarking on her teaching some 6 years ago, Mrs Irvine has successfully led our school Choir and Computing across the school; we are grateful for her dedication to the children and their learning. Those of you who have been fortunate enough to have had their children taught by Mrs Irvine will know what a kind, generous and thoroughly lovely lady she is. We will all miss her very much and wish her every success for the future.

After 5 years at Archbishop Courtenay Primary School, Mr Hazelby has decided to seek out new adventures. Mr Hazelby is well known for arriving at school exceptionally early to make sure lessons are prepared for his class and also his calming music, which resonates throughout the school. For the last few years he has successfully led History and Geography, supporting many of our teachers to produce effective lessons. Mr Hazelby will be missed at ABC and we send him our very best wishes.

We will also be saying goodbye to Miss Brown. Over the last year Miss Brown has shown her commitment to her Year 3 class and the school. She has led Modern and Foreign Languages, supporting the staff in the teaching of French. Miss Brown has worked hard to create an inclusive environment, whereby all her children feel safe to learn. We wish Miss Brown much luck as she continues to embark on her career journey.

Miss Jewell is leaving ABC, in order to study to become a teacher! We are delighted that she has chosen this career path as we need as many wonderful teachers as possible in the profession. Miss Jewell has worked tirelessly to support the children in her class and she will be much missed by them as she will by all the staff. We wish her well and hopefully she will return one day...

I know you will join me in thanking Mrs Irvine, Mr Hazelby, Miss Brown and Miss Jewell for their dedication and contribution to our wonderful school. We wish them lots of luck!

There will be three new teachers joining us from September. All three have already visited school to plan for next year, they will also be joining us for Move Up Day this coming Thursday.

Miss Kimberly Elphick will be joining our Key Stage 1 Team, teaching Year 1. She is very much looking forward to meeting all the children in the coming weeks. Miss Elphick has previously worked at Greenfields and is incredibly enthusiastic. I believe she will be a wonderful addition to our school.

Mrs Kiley Smith will be working with our Lower Key Stage 2 team from September. She will be teaching Year 4. Miss Smith is a very experienced teacher who has worked previously at Tree Tops and Aylesford Primary Schools. Miss Smith already knows some of our staff and I know she will fit in perfectly.

We will also be welcoming Miss Chelsea Chapman. Miss Chapman will be teaching in Year 5/6, she will also be joining our Senior Leadership Team as UKS2 leader and Christian Distinctiveness Lead. Miss Chapman has previously worked at Loose Primary School and is

an inspirational teacher who will bring out the best in our children. She is excited to support our school to become the best it can be!

Finally, I would like to welcome four new Teaching Assistants to the school – Mrs Natalie Cannon, Mrs Desiree Walker, Mrs Ediola Duka and Miss Emily-Jane Makepeace.

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.

A reminder of our school uniform consists of either a **grey skirt, grey pinafore, grey trousers or grey shorts**. Year 6 children have the option to wear a white shirt, school tie and purple V-Neck jumper. **PLEASE NOTE BLACK ITEMS ARE NOT PART OF OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM.**

Our mannequins, Archie and Courtney, are on display in reception beautifully dressed in our official school uniform so please pop in and visit for some inspiration.

Our official school uniform can be purchased at Pages <https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/>

Unit 7-8 Granada House, Lower Stone Street, ME15 6JR

For more details of our school uniform please visit:

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



PE Kit



From September 2022 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 Plimssoles

*School Jumper

*NEW School Hoodie (PE only)

*House Colour T-Shirt:

Faith – Red

Hope – Green

Pride – Blue

Courage – Yellow

*Available to purchase from Pages

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 <https://pages-schoolwear.co.uk/>

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. *This will also involve the School Attendance Service.*

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 with families who maybe facing difficulties getting their children to school and find solutions to get the children learning. 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.

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 Behaviour Policy will be created for September 2022. This will continue to support our school vision, providing a consistent approach to behaviour across all areas of the school and will include parental engagement.

Finally, I would like to thank you all for your support this academic year. Both myself, the entire teaching team, along with the school's Governing Body, are passionate about making Archbishop Courtenay a place of excellence for all our children. Your kindness is much appreciated and working together we will be successful on our journey!

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



The Diocese of Canterbury Academies Trust

Unit 33, Folkestone Enterprise Centre, Shearway Business Park, Shearway Road, Folkestone Kent CT19 4RH

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