



Life in all its fullness

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Dear All

Our school and how it is!

Mrs Watkins and I have looked very closely at the school as a whole for next year. We are a small school with five classes. Seven year groups have to fit into these classes. This is the framework within which we have to work and organise the school. I personally feel that the advantages of us being the size we are, outweigh the disadvantages. All the staff know the children and Mrs. Watkins and I know all the children well. The September/August year grouping is a man-made construction. However, your child is always in their year group and they are not being held back a year or pushed on a year regardless of which class they are in. Our tracking always shows that the pupils make equal amounts of progress whatever class they are in, even if the cohort is split!

Class organisation for 2019/2020

Class	Year Group	Teacher
Butterfly 30	EYFS & Y1	Mrs J. Waters
Owl 29	Y1 & Y2	Miss K. Smith
Woodpecker 28	Y2 & Y3	Miss J. Robinson
Fox 30	Y4 & Y5	Mrs H. Cook
Robin 33	Y5 & Y6	Miss H. Crook

Miss Smith will be in Owl Class as she has returned from her maternity leave. Mrs Curzon has done a fantastic job in teaching Owl Class this year we wish her well in her new post at St Andrews Primary School.

How have we made our decisions?

Basically we have to spread the children amongst the five classes. We have considered the following when making our decisions:

- the need to spread the children as evenly as possible amongst five classes
- age
- siblings
- social skills/ friendship groups

Children still remain in their year group and are not held back or pushed up. Each child in each class is treated as much of an individual as possible.

Please trust us

I understand that any change is unsettling, but please help your child to progress through the school without getting too worried. Your child needs to learn to cope with change as they will have to meet the challenge of 'change' many times in the future.

Mrs. Watkins and I have been teaching for a combined total of fifty years. We have worked with a lot of children! We have a lot of experience between us. Please trust us. We have both been at Stratford-sub-castle Primary School for a long time and we have always had to organise the school differently almost every year.

Our children make really good progress. They all get to their final year of primary school via a different route; they all have their own journey. I am always proud of each one of them because they turn into people ready to move onto the next phase of their education.

Please find a class list attached, indicating your child's class for 2019/2020. This means you will be able to reassure them that they will be with people they know! Please also remember that Butterfly Class and Owl Class EYFS and Y1 pupils spend significant amounts of time together outside and that the teachers in Butterfly Class, Owl Class and Woodpecker Class do plan together. The teachers in Fox Class and Robin Class also spend time planning the curriculum together too!

Kindest regards
Kay Bridson