



# Stratford – Sub – Castle Church of England VC Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Justine Watkins BEd (Hons)



*Life in all its fullness*

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Dear All

## Our school and how it is!

Miss Crook 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 I also 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 their year group is split!

Next year all teachers will remain in their current classes. Mrs Richards will continue to teach Robin Class one day a week while Miss Crook supports others school with their maths mastery curriculum.

Mrs Richards will also continue to teach in Owl Class and will also teach in Woodpecker Class for one day a week. She will teach Art and Design Technology to all classes.

Mrs Diserens will teach Butterfly Class on a Friday and continue teaching outdoor learning to all classes over the year.

## Class organisation for 2024/2025

Class	Year Group	Teacher
<b>Butterfly</b>	EYFS & Y1	Mrs J Waters (Monday – Thursday)      Mrs R Diserens (Friday)
<b>Owl</b>	Y1 & Y2	Miss K Smith (Tuesday – Friday)      Mrs E Richards (Monday)
<b>Robin</b>	Y3 & Y4	Miss H Crook      Mrs E Richards (Thursday)
<b>Woodpecker</b>	Y4 & Y5	Mrs J Rudman (Monday – Thursday)      Mrs E Richards (Friday)
<b>Fox</b>	Y6	Mrs J Wilson

## 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 amongst five classes
- age
- siblings
- social skills/ friendship groups
- size of classrooms

**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. As we well know!

Miss Crook and I have been teaching for a combined total of forty years plus! 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 good progress and are generally very happy. 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 2024/2025.** This means you will be able to reassure them that they will be with people they know!

Kindest regards  
Justine Watkins