

10<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

Yesterday a letter from our CEO was sent out to parents and carers. A reminder that all whole school letters are made available on the school website in the 'Letters Home' section. As Mrs Plews indicated, we are now busy planning for a full return to school in September, in line with the new government guidance. I will be writing to all parents and carers again next week with further details about the start of the new term.

### **Teaching Staff & Transition**

You have already been made aware of your child's next class teacher, however to confirm:

Reception – Mrs Kirk

Year 1 – Mrs Kitwood

Year 2 – Mrs Willans

Year 3 – Mrs Anderson

Year 4 – Mrs Illingworth & Mrs Watson

Year 5 – Mrs Pitts

Year 6 – Mrs Riley

We have already held transition meetings for current Years 4 & 5 (with further meetings for 2 & 3 this week) - These have worked really well so far, enabling children to re-familiarise themselves with the school setting, meet their new teacher and talk about their experiences over the last months.

For those children who were unable to attend, each teacher has filmed a short welcome video, which we will be sharing on our website class pages very shortly.

### **Year 6 Leavers**

Almost all our Year 6 children have returned to school and have been busy working on a range of subjects, many of which linked to preparation for secondary school. Sadly we will say farewell to them all next week and although we have been unable to prepare the usual end of year performance and other large group events, the children have worked in their bubbles to film and record footage for a special leavers video. This includes poetry, song and photo memories and will be shared with Year 6 parents next week. We will also post sections of the video on our social media sites.

All the Year 6s will also take home a special leavers book containing some beautiful hand-written memories, which they will be able to keep, and next week we will have various treats for them on their final day.

### **New horizons**

You may have noticed that Mrs Stratford does not feature in our staffing for 2020-21. After over 20 years at Starbeck School, she has decided to hang up her teacher's hat and look forward to a new stage in her life. Mrs Stratford has taught children from most year groups over the years and has been a devoted and much valued member of staff. We wish her all the best for her future.

Mrs Ellis who has worked in the school in various roles is moving on to work within the NHS – Mrs Ellis has loved working at the school however due to the EMS decommissioning, she has decided to finish her time as a higher level teaching assistant and venture into a different sector. Our thanks and good luck go out to her.



Ms George Ewart, one of our Midday Supervisors, is also moving on after many years helping and supporting children over the lunchtime periods. I am sure she will be remembered by many children both past and present and we wish her well in the future.

### **EMS Decommissioning**

As you will be aware, Starbeck School has hosted one of the North Yorkshire network of EMS provisions for over 10 years. The team have provided top-class 'outreach' support (and periodic in-reach) for children with SEMH needs in schools throughout Harrogate, Knaresborough and Ripon areas. Due to the recent restructuring of the whole Special Educational Needs Strategy in North Yorkshire, all EMSs are being decommissioned and there will therefore no longer be an EMS on site. New targeted support provision for SEMH, as well as other special educational needs, will be via more centrally organised hubs as well as plans for new school based provisions where referred children will be based full-time. As an inclusive trust, our focuses remain firmly on our own innovative solutions and models to best support our children.

Some parents & carers will have met members of the EMS team, Aimee Bellwood, Sarah Latham, Elaine Ellis, Liz Gatenby, Fi Wilkins and Katie Smirthwaite. We wish them all well with their careers and thank them for the amazing support that they have provided for children within so many NYCC schools.

### **North Yorkshire Holiday Provision**

As you will be aware, since the start of the lockdown period nearly 16 weeks ago, schools have been providing on-going provisions for children of critical/key workers and vulnerable children. Due to the relaxation of guidelines, this provision will end at the end of the term. We have been asked to provide parents & carers with a link to a search engine which has been created to provide information of activities and provisions that are available over the summer period.

<https://northyorkshireconnect.org.uk/>

### **New Uniform Orders**

Please could I remind parents that if they would like to order any new uniform items before September, please feel free to email the school office in relation to this who will be happy to help.

[admin@starbeck.n-yorks.sch.uk](mailto:admin@starbeck.n-yorks.sch.uk)

As always, thank you for your kind support, which our team really appreciate. We will be in touch again next week with an update on the full re-opening in September.

Yours sincerely,

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Headteacher



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