

MAYESPARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Head teacher: Ms E Davies



12th October 2022

Dear Parent / Carer,

I am writing to inform you of some changes in the staff team which will have a direct impact on your child. It is unfortunate that we have to make these changes however we are doing so with the best interests of the children and I hope that you can understand the reasons for doing so.

Firstly, I would like to share with you that Mrs Sharma, class Stephenson's teacher, is pregnant and will be going on maternity leave in the Spring term. I am sure you will join me in congratulating her and wishing her well. Also, Mrs Assenjee, a year 5 teacher, needs to have an operation next week, which may have an extended recovery time. Both of these are unavoidable and could not have been foreseen.

I want to inform you of the plan we have in place to ensure the children's learning and wellbeing is upheld at this difficult time. There are a number of factors I have considered whilst developing the plan. Many schools use agency companies to cover long term absences. Availability of good quality agency staff can be unpredictable. This is something we want to avoid where possible in order to provide the best for our children. I want to ensure that the children have consistency and are taught by teachers who know the school and the curriculum well, so I have decided that, after half term, children in Stephenson class will be moved to one of the other year six classes and will be taught by Mr Lawless, Mrs Murphy or Miss Ibrahim.

When we make the new classes we will consider friendships, academic attainment and will balance these needs as much as possible. We have told the children today and asked them to write down some children who they get along well with so we can take that into account. The current year 6 cohort is not full. As I write this letter there are 96 children, therefore class size is significantly under the average class size of 30 children. By combining the classes each year 6 class will be approximately 33 children which would be a normal size class.

Mrs Sharma will teach Sinan class after half term and there will be a good agency teacher teaching the class in the next two weeks. When Mrs Assenjee is well and able to return to school Mrs Sharma will teach groups of children in year 6 in order to ensure they get precisely what they need to do their best in SATs. This will involve challenging the more able to achieve greater depth, and ensuring any gaps in knowledge are addressed. This work will be continued by Mrs Ige and Mr Radmore when Mrs Sharma goes on maternity leave.

Parents' evening for Sinan and Thunberg (current class) will be on 8th and 9th November. Other classes will continue to have their parents' evening as planned

Yours faithfully

Ms E Davies
Headteacher

