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Headteacher: Katie Williams

Friday 13th September 2024

Dear parents and carers

As we have reached the end of the first full week back at school, I wanted to formally write to you following the summer break. I hope that you all had a pleasant holiday and are slowly readjusting to the school routines.

I would like to extend a warm welcome to all of our new families. We are very glad that you have chosen us to be a part of your child's journey and we look forward to working with you.

It has been lovely to welcome our new teachers to the school. Miss Dallimore, Mr Carter and Miss Lovell are settling into life at Puriton and have each made a great start to the school year. As yet, we have still haven't heard any news of the arrival of Mrs Lee's baby, but I will share an update as soon as I have one.

I have some additional exciting news to share this week as Miss Hussey starts her adoption leave. This is a very exciting time for her family and we wish her the best of luck. Whilst she is on adoption leave, the SENCO role will be overseen by Mr Lawrence who will be supported by myself, as the previous SENCO for the school. Mr Lawrence has always had a keen interest in SEND and this will give him the opportunity to explore the role further. If you have any questions regarding the support and provision of SEND, please do make contact with Mr Lawrence in the first instance.

Over the coming weeks, I will share updated versions of the new attendance procedures and our parent communication guide so please do look out for these as they are shared. A polite reminder that the school gates close at 8:45 and so your child should be in their classrooms by this time. We appreciate that there are occasions when things go wrong and lateness can't be avoided, however, persistent lateness and absence may trigger the need for a formal meeting. The children are accessing learning from the moment they enter the classroom in the morning and this valuable time that is missed can build up to a negative impact on the child's education.

This school year we are having a whole school focus on improving writing. For many of our children, spelling and handwriting can be a real struggle. On the whole, our children have very creative minds and a good vocabulary but the basic handwriting and spelling skills can mean that they don't reach the government expectations for their age. To try and tackle these two areas in particular, we have implemented new strategies for handwriting and spelling across the school. More of these details will be shared in the coming weeks. In order to have the best possible impact on the children's learning, we will ask that you support us with any shared strategies whilst the children are learning at home.

I am excited for the coming year and looking forward to working with all of our children and families and continuing to see the school develop. As always, I thank you for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely

Katie Williams

Headteacher

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