9th June 2017

Dear Parent / Carer

I apologise for the length of this letter, but I need to inform you about some important items and changes which will be happening soon at St Oswald’s.

**STAFFING CHANGES**

From September there will be some changes in staffing. **Laura Blackmore** has been appointed as Deputy Headteacher at Wigginton Primary School from September. **Sam Allenby** will also be leaving us at the end of this term to take up a new teaching post in Thailand. **Julia** **Peacock**, who has worked part-time in KS1 and Early Years team for many years, will also be leaving at the end of term for pastures new.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate Ms Blackmore and Mr Allenby on their new appointments and wish them both continuing success in the next stages of their careers. On behalf of all of us at St Oswald’s I would also like to thank all three of them for everything that they have contributed to our school.

I am very pleased to announce that we have appointed two new teachers for KS2, **Miss Sophie Palfreeman** and **Miss Chloe Bell**. We look forward to welcoming them to the St Oswald’s team from September. We hope to organise an opportunity for pupils and parents to meet them both before the end of term.

**CLASS ORGANISATION**

Class organisation for 2017-18 will be as follows:

**Reception:** Mrs Nott

Mrs Utley

**Key Stage 1**

Y1/2: Mrs Paley

Y1/2: Mrs Houston

Y1/2: Miss Miller

**Key Stage 2**

Y3/4: Miss Ramsay

Y3/4: Miss Palfreeman

Y3/4: Mr Mann

Y5/6: Miss Bell

Y5/6: Mr Waterfall-Smith

Y5/6: Miss Rowe

Dyslexia Centre– Mrs Webster

**CLASS ALLOCATIONS**

We are currently finalising class allocations for September. Staff take considerable time and care over this process to ensure that each class in the phase has a similar mix of children. We always make sure that current Reception pupils are placed in a class with at least one of their chosen friends.For pupils moving into Y2 and upwards, we try as far as possible to keep existing peer groups together. However, because of the high level of mobility in the school, with pupils joining or leaving classes since last September, this is not always possible. We sometimes also need to make changes where teachers feel it is in the best educational interests of the children. We always try to take into account friendships when making any changes and to discuss these with parents when appropriate.

We will send out details of your child’s new class next week, along with information about how we will be helping the children to prepare for transition before the end of this year.

**TIMETABLE CHANGE**

From next week, we are trialling a change to the timetable. This will involve staggering the lunch break so that morning lessons for children in KS2 will end at 12.15pm and the afternoon session will start at 1.15pm. Children in Reception and KS1 will continue to have their lunch break from 12.00-1.00pm. School starting and finishing times will be unaffected. The main aim of this change is to give more time for learning activities in KS2 in the morning, but we expect it will also reduce problems that can occur due to the number of children sharing the same lunch hour. We will review the impact of this change at the end of term before deciding whether to make it permanent.

Finally, I have attached a list of key dates for the very busy half term ahead. Further information about these will be sent out as appropriate.

If you have any queries about any of these items please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours faithfully

Rupert Griffiths

**St Oswald’s CE Primary School - Key Dates: Summer term 2**

Mon 12,

Tues 13 &

Thurs 15 June: YoYo / School Worship Team ‘Prayer Space Days’, St

Oswald’s Church

Thurs 15June: Whole school ‘Mini Olympics’ (weather permitting!)

Wed 14 June: Meeting for parents of children starting Reception in Sept, 6.30pm

Fri 23 June: Reception visit to Skylark Centre & Nature reserve, Drax

Thurs 29 June: Celebration of the Arts Evening, 6.30pm

Fr 30 June: ‘Dress Up & Dance’ Day

Sat 1July: St Oswald’s Church Summer Fair

3-5 July: Y6 residential visit to Robinwood, Todmorden

Mon 10 July: Children’s author, Dion Leonard, visiting school

Full Governing Body meeting, 5.45pm

Tues 11 July: Y1/2 visit to the Yorkshire Arboretum

Fri 14 July: School ‘Diversity Day’

FOSOSF Summer Barbecue

Mon 17 July: Reception concert for parents

Pupils’ end of year reports issued

Tues 18 &

Wed 19 July: Y5/6 Production

Fri 21 July: Rec/KS1 and KS2 Sports Days

Tues 25 July: End of year Church service, St Oswald’s Church (tbc)

Wed 26 July: Y6 ‘Oscars’ (am)

Leavers’ Assembly, 1.30pm

School closes for summer holiday

Mon 4 &

Tues 5 Sept: School closed (staff INSET Days)

Wed 6 Sept: School re-opens for autumn term