

A Learning School
A Community School
An Inclusive School



A Growth Mindset School
A Reflective School
A Healthy School

Gorse Hill Primary School Newsletter Monday 6th July

Staffing

There will be a few staffing changes between now and September.

Mrs Paine is retiring as a teacher at the end of this half term. Mrs Paine has been employed at Gorse Hill since January 1991 and has enjoyed a long career passing on her knowledge and expertise to hundreds of families over the years. In preparing for her retirement, Mrs Paine has worked extremely hard gaining a degree in counselling demonstrating that you are never too old to learn something new. She is now a qualified children's and adult counsellor and I know that she is very much looking forward to pursuing this new line of work. I'm sure you will join me in wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Mrs Schofield has also made the decision to retire at the end of this term. Mrs Schofield has been employed at Gorse Hill since September 2009. Although this is not as long as Mrs Paine, I know that Mrs Schofield has touched the hearts of many Gorse Hill families over this time and many of you will be saddened that she is leaving and will not get to teach your child. Mrs Schofield intends to spend some well-earned time with her family and I'm sure you will join me in also wishing her a long and happy retirement.

Unfortunately, we will also be saying a sad farewell to Mrs Wilson who has been at Gorse Hill since 2015. Mrs Wilson was originally employed as a Teaching Assistant but through much hard work, sweat and tears she gained her teaching qualification last year and has been employed as a teacher ever since. I wish Mrs Wilson luck for her future career as a teacher.



Mrs Paine



Mrs Schofield



Mrs Wilson



New Classes for September 2020

Teachers for classes for September have now been allocated and are as follows:

Nursery– Mrs Johnson
Class 1– Mrs Durkan
Class 2—Mrs Shuttleworth
Class 3—Miss Baker
Class 4—Mrs O’Breasil
Class 5—Mrs Dickinson and Mrs MacDonald
Class 6—Miss O’Neill
Class 7– Mrs Cameron
Class 8—Mrs Tahanci
Class 9– Miss Pike
Class 10– Miss C Smith
Class 11– Miss H Smith
Class 12– Mr Gleaves
Class 13– Miss Ferguson
Class 14– Mr Donaghy and Mrs Rodda

Parents will receive a letter, in their annual report, informing you about the class your child will be in from September.

School Day Time Change

Following the release of the Government’s latest Covid 19 guidance last week on schools opening to all pupils full time from September by operating class and/or year group bubbles that do not mix, as best as possible, with other class and/or year group bubbles, I have made the decision to shorten lunchtimes by 15 minutes in order to provide each bubble with a lunchtime that can be kept separate from other bubbles. This means that until further notice, school will finish at 3pm each day from September for all pupils. Over the next few weeks, the SLT will consider all of the Government guidance and will inform you about what we are doing to keep staff and children as safe as possible during the pandemic. We will also be considering the latest guidance around breakfast and after school clubs. Again we will keep you informed. I have been so humbled by all of the support parents have shown since the March lockdown and would like to take the time to thank you again for this support, all of the kind words and for your understanding and patience when systems and procedures keep changing.

Buildings

In preparation for the new school year, we have builders completing the resurfacing of the playground. For a variety of reasons, this work has been on hold since last year when the new extension was completed. The school council will help to determine the playground markings we have drawn on, all helping to make playtime a much more enjoyable experience. Alongside this, some of the drainage issues we experience should be resolved.

I am extremely proud of all of the work we have had done to the school over the last eight years of my headship. I have always said that the children and families of Gorse Hill deserve the best learning environment and now it is time to bring the main entrance in keeping with the rest of the school. Over the summer, the entire main entrance will be restructured and parents and children will no longer have to enter school through a car park. Instead, the main entrance will be accessed by a new gate and door on Burleigh Road. A much safer option, I’m sure you will agree. My office will become the new office for my Administration Team and Mrs Rodda will relocate to a new office in the extension, Miss Coxe will have a new office near the main entrance and I will be moving into the old Admin Team space. Miss Ferguson has put her excellent design skills to good use as she has designed a bespoke wall covering for the wall of the new main entrance. We are very excited about this project but more importantly, believe that this will give the right first impressions of the school and will also improve safeguarding procedures.

