

Mowbray Primary School
Stakeford Lane
Guide Post
Choppington
Northumberland
NE62 5HQ

Headteacher: Mr Andrew Miller

AM/LH

22 June 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

School Reports

You will be issued your child's annual written report shortly via email. If you have changed your email address, please inform the office soon as possible.

This year we have staggered the release of reports – not all reports will be sent out on the same day. Please see below for release dates:

Monday 2 July – Nursery, Ash and Mulberry Tuesday 3 July – Larch and Oak Wednesday 4 July – Elder and Chestnut Thursday 5 July – Beech and Holly Friday 6 July – Maple and Willow

Please note that if your child is in Year 2 or Year 6, the national assessments (SATs) and confirmed teacher assessments will be sent out separately after 10 July once released by The Department for Education. This also applies to the results of the National Phonics check for Year 1 children.

ACADEMIC YEAR 2018 - 2019

Staffing Changes

There will be a number of staffing changes for the next academic year, starting in September. Firstly, Miss Tatlock will not be returning to Mowbray Primary School. Her absence this year has been covered by Miss Tuckwood who we would like to thank for her efforts over the year. Miss Tuckwood will also be moving on in September and we wish both staff well for the future.

The Governing Body has also conducted a review of leadership across school and have created the new post of Assistant Headteacher to have responsibility for supporting vulnerable pupils such as children with additional needs or children who may need additional support due to emotional stress or upheaval. Mr Davison has been successful in applying for this role and as such will be promoted to Assistant Headteacher from September.

We will also be joined in September by Ms Claire Curtis who will take on a teaching role in Year 6 alongside Mrs Dodds in order to reduce class sizes. Ms Curtis has been appointed on a one year contract. Mrs Sullivan, who this year has worked as a teacher in Early Years, has had her contract extended for another year and will support teaching in Key Stage 1 to help reduce class sizes. We wish both staff well in their roles.

Of course we will also be welcoming Miss Holdsworth back from Canada in September and will be saying goodbye to Miss Young as she returns to Calgary. I am sure you will agree that the exchange has been a huge success and Miss Young will be missed at Mowbray. However, we wish her well for the future and look forward to a continued link with her school in Calgary.

<u>Classes 2018 – 2019</u>

As you will be aware, the area is suffering from a lower birth rate than normal which is resulting in fewer children. This is having a huge effect on pupil numbers entering schools across the area. This year we have only had enough children for one reception class rather than the usual 2 and this is set to continue. With large classes of Year 6 leaving for secondary school and low numbers entering school this has seen a drop in pupil numbers. This has also created a challenge of how to group children as they move through school. This year is no different and, as a result, no classes will be reshuffled – children will all move up with the children they are currently with. The exception to this is Year 6 where Maple and Holly this year will be taught together in an afternoon but will be taught separately in a morning (ensuring low class sizes for English and Maths). The table below shows current classes and which class they will become in September.

CURRENT YEAR	SEPTEMBER 2018
Nursery	Ash (Reception)
Ash (Reception)	Larch (Year 1)
Larch (Year 1)	Elder (Year 2)
Elder (Year 1/2)	Mulberry (Year 2/3)
Beech (Year 1/2)	Beech (Year 2/3)
Mulberry (Year 3/4)	Chestnut (Year 4/5)
Chestnut (Year 3/4)	Holly (Year 4/5)
Oak (Year 3/4)	Maple (Year 4/5)
Holly (Year 5)	Willow (Year 6)
Maple (Year 5)	Willow (Year 6)

The teachers allocated for September 2018 will be as follows:

Nursery – Mrs Burns
Ash – Mrs Baldwin
Larch – Miss Ewart
Elder – Mrs Waters
Beech – Mrs Patterson
Mulberry – Miss Holdsworth
Chestnut – Miss Gibson
Holly – Mrs Beattie
Maple – Mr Davison
Willow – Mrs Dodds and Ms Curtis

As with many schools with admission numbers like ours, it is impossible to operate without mixed year group classes. Our curriculum is well designed to meet all children's needs and extreme care is taken to ensure that no children could be disadvantaged by encountering a curriculum that is either too hard or too easy. If you have any queries about the class structure, please speak to your child's current teacher as a first point of contact.

Yours sincerely

Mr A Miller Headteacher