



## SETTLE CE PRIMARY SCHOOL - GOVERNOR NEWS

(Issue Three: 17/12/18)

Dear Parent/Guardian

As this busy term draws closer to Christmas Holiday I would like to share with you some important school developments.

### Settle CE Primary and Kirkby Malham Primary School Collaboration

The School Collaboration with Kirkby Malham Primary has got off to a flying start and there have been a number of advantages brought to Settle Primary School:

- The School is financially healthier than it would otherwise be - meaning that money can be invested into school resources such as Library Books (£5,000) and fund additional staff hours to help those children who might be struggling in school and need an extra helping hand.
- Reorganisation has meant subject/area coordinators have much needed release time to allow them to focus and develop important leadership responsibilities in Maths, English, Special Needs and Assessment of Learning. This means that the ongoing monitoring of pupil attainment is enhanced and there is a clearer focus on raising academic standards and provision throughout the school.
- The school is better placed to return to single age classes and sustain them, when the timing and numbers are right.
- We are able to create additional leadership support for Mr Wright as he runs two schools, with the appointment of a Deputy Head Teacher.

### Deputy Head Teacher

The Governing Body are delighted to announce that from January 2019 our Deputy Head Teacher will be Miss Laura Thompson. Miss Thompson is an energetic, highly skilled and talented practitioner who will oversee the running of the school with Mr Wright and cover for him when he is working offsite. Her position is created with a view to allowing her sufficient additional time to undertake a more developed leadership role, focusing primarily on teaching and learning standards across the school. She will receive additional release time to carry out her role but it will not adversely affect her class duties. It is fantastic to have a Deputy Head Teacher once again at the school. It has been a number of years since Mr Macpherson retired and Mr Wright is very much looking forward to sharing duties with a Deputy Head Teacher. As I am sure you will agree, they will make a great team and with their combined abilities and energy the school can only go from strength to strength.

### New Nursery Teacher

The Governing Body are also delighted to announce that Mrs Helen Wright will become our new Nursery Teacher in the New Year. She will initially work in partnership with Mrs Jessop from January 2019, sharing responsibilities. She will take over the role fully around February time. Mrs Wright is an experienced practitioner and has served as a North Yorkshire Lead Teacher and Computing Master Teacher. She comes with specialist knowledge in a range of areas including Early Years and Key Stage One. Mrs Wright has worked in a number of schools in Calderdale and North Yorkshire and will ultimately share EYFS Leadership with Mrs Downham when she returns to school following Maternity Leave.

### Parent Pay

Parents please look at your Parent Pay accounts and to bring them up to date before we close for Christmas.

### After School Club

For parents using the After School Club Service please collect your child on time and before 5.30pm. In a small number of cases there has been late collection and sometimes very late, with parents arriving closer to 6.00pm! When this happens it is unfair on the child as well as the staff. For health and safety reasons up to two staff will need to stay on with any late collection. Please note that staff charges, as well as a late fee will be passed on to any parents *who are repeatedly late collecting their child* and repeat offending may mean the service is withdrawn.

### Dates

- KS2 Christmas Party - **Tuesday 18th December** and EYFS / KS1 Party **Wednesday 19th December**
- **Friday 21st December** - Our Christmas Church Service (2pm) at the Holy Ascension Church, Settle.
- Staff INSET on **Monday 7th January** and School re-opens on **Tuesday 8th January 2019**

Have a great Christmas!

**Michael Gudgeon**

Chair of Governors