



7th January 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Happy New Year and welcome back for the start of a new term at Settle Primary. I hope you have all been able to have a relaxing and enjoyable Christmas break.

A warm welcome to Mrs King and Mrs Lait who join our teaching team this year. Both are highly regarded and experienced practitioners who will further strengthen our existing team by bringing new skills and expertise to the school in a range of curriculum areas. It is great to have them on board!

We have also appointed a new full time HLTA, Miss Crossley, who will work in Class 6 with Miss Thompson and Mrs Shortreed. Miss Crossley has the added benefit of being a qualified teacher. We hope that she will be another wonderful addition to the team.

Please be reminded that though Mrs Smith is no longer teaching class, she continues to work in the school each Friday in her role as Peripatetic SENDCo to support myself and the wider staff with Special Needs provision. If you wish to make an appointment with Mrs Smith then Friday is the day.

Our new class structure is as follows:

- Nursery – Mrs Wright
- Reception (Year R/1)– Mrs Spensley
- Class One (Year 1)– Mrs Lait (Monday-Wednesday) and Mrs Hopley (Thursday-Friday)
- Class Two (Year 2) – Miss Wright
- Class Three (Year 3/4) – Mrs King (Monday-Wednesday) and Mrs Hulse (Thursday-Friday)
- Class Four/Five (Year 4/5) – Mrs Ambrose (Monday-Wednesday) and Mrs Drewery (Thursday-Friday)
- Class 6 (Year 6) – Miss Thompson

Unfortunately, Mrs Spensley is not yet ready to return to school this week and continues to be on sick leave. At the time of writing we are unsure as to when she will return. As such, an additional relief/supply teacher arrangement is currently being finalised to make sure we have the best possible cover if it is required for the long term and if Mrs Spensley's absence continues a suitably qualified relief teacher will be in place from next week. Mrs Wright, Mrs Carpenter and the Early Years Team have done a fantastic job of ensuring that reception provision has been unaffected in the lead up to Christmas and the team will continue to ensure standards are maintained, with additional support staff input built into Early Years and in particular reception provision this term. If Reception parents have further questions regarding the current arrangement then please do not hesitate to contact me.

This term we look forward to maintaining our partnership work with Kirkby Malham Primary School and to provide further curriculum enrichment days that benefit the pupils of both schools. Details of forthcoming events will be shared with parents in the coming weeks.

Weather permitting, we will participate and help organise a number of sporting events for pupils, including competitive festivals for children across a range of year groups, involving primary schools and Independent Schools across the North West Area. We have a very busy schedule ahead of us and letters for these events will be issued in due course.

There will continue to be a range of clubs provided alongside our extended services of Breakfast, Nursery and After School Club and details of these will also be shared with parents in the coming days.

A new provision will be added into our Breakfast Club routine in the guise of a **Wake up and Shake Up / Growth Mindset and Mindfulness Workshop** built into the timetable. This provision will not be charged but will be included as part of the morning Breakfast Club service. It will be run and organised by Mr Patrick Illingworth, who is a qualified teacher and Mindfulness Coach and Local Tutor. Mr Illingworth will work alongside our three existing staff and those children who wish to join in the morning physical and spiritual activities provided. We hope the new club will provide a fantastic means of getting the children fully alert and focused with the right mind set to make the most of the busy school day. We will trial the club this term and if popular it will continue throughout the year as a permanent item.

Mr Illingworth has also expressed an interest in providing a Kick Boxing Martial Arts Club for Primary and Secondary pupils based at the school. We were hoping to set up this club last year but plans were delayed due to changing work circumstances. We are hoping to start this club in the coming weeks and for those attending the after-school club the Martial Arts Club will be free. Details will follow shortly.

The recent parent survey has been very useful in gauging the strengths and areas for development of our extended services and all comments have been much appreciated. We hope that the new arrangements described above will be popular with children and families.

Class teachers will issue letters this week outlining topics, routines and activities specific to the children in their class. Please note that letters are issued to parents directly via email. Further communications, including dates of key events and general information can be found on the school website (settleprimary.org.uk) with class pages updated this week by teachers. Meanwhile our Facebook site celebrates work and achievement with the school community.

Wishing you all a Happy New Year and best wishes for a great year ahead!

Mr Wright

Executive Headteacher



