

28<sup>th</sup> September 2021

Dear parent/carer,

Firstly, I'd like to thank you all for your support in adapting to the temporary revision of protective measures in school following the increase in positive COVID-19 cases. The children have been fantastic in their attitudes and response, as they have throughout the last 18 months, taking things in their stride and showing wonderful resilience and adaptability during a challenging time.

I write to you today to provide a staffing update following a busy few weeks at the start of the school year. This term, we have welcomed some new staff to our team, and unfortunately also said goodbye to some school staff also.

\*Earlier this term, we said goodbye to **Mrs Martin** and **Miss Allcroft**, two members of our support staff team. **Miss Allcroft** worked at Aston Hall for 9 years as a member of support staff, including as a HLTA covering lessons regularly across school. We wish her all the best for the future and in her new role working within early years at an education setting in Sheffield. **Mrs Martin** worked at Aston Hall for 10 years as a member of our support staff, supporting staff with her wonderful creativity and positive impact on the schools' displays and learning environment. We wish her all the best for the future.

\*We would like to congratulate **Mrs Heydon**, our foundation stage lead and Assistant Headteacher, who was successful in applying to work for the Wickersley Partnership Trust as an SLE (Specialist leader in education), two days a week for this academic year. This is a wonderful opportunity for **Mrs Heydon** to develop her leadership skills and have a significant positive impact on pupils' learning across the trust, as well as being able to bring the knowledge and experience of best practice she gains, back into Aston Hall to improve our own education offer. To ensure consistency and continued quality provision for our foundation stage pupils, we have appointed **Mrs Norris** to our school staff who has replaced **Mrs Heydon** on Mondays and Tuesdays. I'm sure you'll all join me in welcoming **Mrs Norris** to our school community.

\*We are pleased to announce the safe arrival of **Miss Yearsley's** baby girl earlier this month. She will now be enjoying her maternity leave with her family and we send them all our best at this wonderfully exciting time.

\*We welcome to the team **Mrs Wall**, who has worked previously in school during the pandemic to support key target groups of pupils in their learning. **Mrs Wall** joins us in school on a temporary basis as a member of our support staff team.

\***Mrs Selman** will be returning to school to class 3HS alongside **Mrs Hicks** after October half term following her maternity leave. **Mrs Ayub**, who was covering **Mrs Selman's** maternity cover in class 3HS from September until October half term, has left this temporary post within school; we wish her all the best in the future and her career in teaching. I am pleased to inform you that **Mr Kemp**, a teacher well known to the school from previous work with us, will be working 2.5 days a week until October half term alongside **Mrs Hicks**. This will ensure strong consistency for the class for the remainder of the half term.

\*Parents in KS1 may have noticed some new faces in school this week. **Mr Wallace, Mrs Wilson** and **Mrs Wagstaff** will be in school this week in KS1 due to staff absence. Please join me in welcoming them, albeit for a short period of time, to the Aston Hall team.

\*Finally, **Mrs Wilson** and **Mrs Archer**, who worked for our external catering partner, working in the school kitchen, have left their posts. We wish them well in the future and thank them for their contributions to school. A newly formed team of staff will be starting in our school kitchen in the next few weeks and I will provide further updates on this in due course. Temporary staff are currently in place and lunchtimes continue to run smoothly with our return to a 'normal' lunchtime service since September.

As you can see, there have been a variety of changes during a very busy few weeks in school since our return following the summer break. As always, if you have any questions or queries, please do not hesitate to get in touch with me via clasdojo or in person via the school office.

Kind regards,



Mr Holmes

Headteacher