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Wednesday, March 11, 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

*As you are aware, the current Year 1 class has experienced continued disruption this year, and although the uncertainty has been out of our hands, we fully recognise and have worked hard to try to minimise the impact on the children to the best of our ability. We understand how important stability and routine are at this stage of their education and have tried to avoid any further changes for the children.*

*During the Spring term we tried tirelessly to secure a Nursery teacher to replace Mrs Butler after she moved into the Year 1 classroom. However, this is a very specialised and niche area, and our search proved unsuccessful.*

*We did however interview a candidate who demonstrated real passion, strong skills, and a deep understanding of early education. He fully embodies the values set out in our schools mission statement and we have therefore successfully appointed him as an experienced teacher who will take over the teaching in the Year 1 class with effect from Monday 13th April. Mr Hodge will be joining our school team after the Easter break and we are confident that he will be a fantastic addition to our team and a positive presence for the children.*

*Mr Hodge has visited the school and spent time with the Year 1 class. The children thoroughly enjoyed welcoming him and were delighted to show him their classroom, the outdoor learning environment, and how their classroom routines work. Mrs McCreadie, who has been a consistent and supportive presence for the children throughout the year, will remain in the classroom alongside Mr Hodge. Her continued presence will help maintain a sense of familiarity and stability for the children during this transition.*

*For full transparency and for you to have the opportunity to meet Mr Hodge in person should you wish to do so, we would like to invite you into school on Wednesday 18th March at 2:30pm. Mr Featherstone, our Chair of Governors and myself will also be present and available should you wish to speak with us and ask any questions you may have. It is also an opportunity for you to take a look at your child's new learning environment as they now have more access to the outdoor provision to further enhance their learning moving forward.*

*We fully understand and appreciate that the children have experienced many changes this year but we are confident that the Summer term will be consistent and progressive for them. We are incredibly proud of the way the children have responded showing great resilience and continuing to make positive progress in their learning.*

*In what has been a very difficult and challenging time for these children, we would like to thank you for your continued support and partnership with the school.*

*We look forward to welcoming you on Wednesday 18th March.*

Yours sincerely,

Mrs D Douglas - Headteacher

