



**Lord Deramore's
Primary School**



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Tuesday 5th September 2017

Headteacher Update

Staffing Updates



A very warm Lord Deramore's welcome is extended to **Mr Adam Sharpe** who has started as our Year 5 class teacher and to **Mr Liam Holmes** who will be teaching specialist sport, PE and games throughout the school each Tuesday.

We also received some very special news on our return to school yesterday. **Mrs Steph Jach** has announced that she is expecting her first child, due in March 2018. She plans to start her maternity leave at February half term. We have plenty of time therefore to ensure that Mrs Jach's Year 3 teaching commitment is covered either by established part-time staff already within school or via an external appointment. I will naturally keep you fully updated when plans are in place. For now, however, please can we congratulate Mrs Jach and her husband on such wonderful news.

Building Work Update

The old (1960's) building has now been completely demolished and landscaping around the perimeter of the new school is beginning to take shape. Unfortunately, however, we received news that traces of asbestos have been found in the old flooring of the sixties building. The Health & Safety Executive has recommended that this be removed before the playground is created and that this should take place in the October half term when staff and children are not on site. We are naturally disappointed that the works have been extended yet again but whole-heartedly agree that the children and staff's health and safety must always come first. Kier will update us all via one of their newsletters as soon as they have further updates.



Morning Drop Offs

From the start of this term, the staff would like to **trial** a new system of children coming into school. With wintry and wet weather here and most likely to stay, we would like to allow children and parents to come to their phase entrance doors from **8.40a.m.** onwards as opposed to waiting on the playground and queueing for the whistle. Not only will this allow children to get straight on with their morning activities (in the comfort of a warm classroom) but we also hope that it will help working parents too who may need to depart promptly. The school playground gate will be locked at **9a.m.** when official registration takes place so any pupils arriving after this time will need to sign in via the school office. Staff will naturally be available to have short chats with parents at drop-off if necessary and are always happy to arrange a meeting with you should you wish to discuss something in detail.



School Development Priorities

School Development Plan



As we begin the new academic year, staff and governors are busy self-evaluating our strengths and areas for development. This week, I will be sending out a short parental questionnaire which I invite you to complete (either anonymously or named) and return back to school.

We are expecting a one-day OFSTED inspection this academic year and all of the comments, feedback and responses you give will help us to identify what makes Lord Deramore's such a special school and how it could get even better.



FACEBOOK

<https://www.facebook.com/lordderamoresprimaryschool>

TWITTER

<https://twitter.com/lordderamores>



Please do remember to visit our Facebook and Twitter pages regularly to gain an insight into all of the school's exciting work, projects, visits and visitors.

It was wonderful to welcome you all this morning at the gate and see the smiling faces of children, old and new, starting the new academic year. As always, we look forward to working closely with you all over the weeks ahead, aiming to provide the very best school experience for each and every single one of your children. May I take this opportunity to warmly welcome every new member of our school family. Lord Deramore's is a truly unique, diverse and special place and I wish all of our new children and colleagues a happy future here.

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'James Rourke'. The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

James Rourke
Headteacher