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**Headteacher Update – June 2020**

**Staffing Update**

Next month, **Mrs Ann Pye** will be retiring after an impressive thirty-five years in education. In addition, **Mrs Steph Jach** will also be leaving us as she has relocated back to Durham to be nearer to her family. On behalf of everybody at Lord Deramore's, may I thank them both for their dedication and service to all of our children and families. We will miss you!



Under the current circumstances, it is very difficult to recruit teachers. A key part of any recruitment process is seeing candidates interact with, and teach, a class. We have therefore made the decision to put in temporary staffing arrangements for the autumn term, with a view to recruit a new, full-time KS2 teacher for a January 2021 start date.

Key changes: Miss McCormack will be starting back with us after her maternity leave, Mrs Gulliver (who has many years experience as an Early Years practitioner) will be moving to Y1 with Mrs Jones, Mrs Holden will remain with us for an extra term and Mrs McKenna is kindly going to go full-time for the autumn term too.



Autumn Term (September to December 2020)

Early Years	Mrs Carr
Year 1	Mrs Jones and Mrs Gulliver
Year 2	Miss McCormack and Mrs Holden
Year 3	Mrs McKenna
Year 4	Mr Sharpe
Year 5	Mr Richards
Year 6	Miss Smith

Spring Term (January 2021 onwards)

Early Years	Mrs Carr
Year 1	Mrs Jones and Mrs Gulliver
Year 2	Miss McCormack and Mrs McKenna
Year 3	New Full-Time Teacher
Year 4	Mr Sharpe
Year 5	Mr Richards
Year 6	Miss Smith



We do not envisage any changes to current teaching assistant deployment. However, Miss Kim Arthur and a further new colleague will be joining our Special Educational Needs team from September, specifically supporting those children in receipt of an Education Health Care Plan.

In addition to these staff changes, **Miss Amanda Nicholson** will be moving to part-time working and we are in the process of recruiting her job share colleague. Governors have also decided to recruit our own School Business Manager after using the City of York Council peripatetic support service for the past few years. We will be supported by **Mr Arran Brown** until an appointment is made.

### **Covid-19 School Updates**

We have now reached full capacity in our two Key Worker groups. There is now a waiting list in place for any further applications from critical worker families in Years 2 to 6. Children in Early Years and Year 1 may continue to join their peers whenever families decide.

Colleagues are currently exploring possibilities for a small number of face-to-face sessions for our Year 6 children. We are particularly keen to support our wonderful Year 6s and recognise how difficult this term must be for them. We are currently awaiting approval from Public Health England about what is and is not possible under the present circumstances. Either way, we will maintain our promise to them that they will definitely return to us for one or two days of normality (whenever that returns). We will also do all we can to support them in terms of their transition to secondary school.

No further information has been provided by the government with regard to plans for September or the summer holidays. This includes any information about the 'catch up' tutoring scheme revealed this morning in the media. As soon as I have more information, I will be in touch with you all.

We will continue to do our best to support all of you during this difficult time. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'James Rourke', with a horizontal line underneath the name.

James Rourke  
Headteacher