



Chesterton CE Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr Iain Horner

8th July 2024

CLASS ARRANGEMENTS FOR ACADEMIC YEAR 2024-2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Governors and Senior Leadership Team have now finalised our staffing and class arrangements for the next academic year.

I am pleased to say that we are able to continue with our seven class model for 2024-2025. We are projected to have 204 pupils next year, which is the largest that the school has ever been. This is positive for the financial health of the school, however it is likely that all schools will continue to face budgetary pressures so maintaining strong pupil numbers will be crucial to the sustainability of our current and future provision model. We will obviously be watching closely to see whether the new government make any changes to school funding over the coming months. As part of their regular processes, the Governors will continue to monitor spending and review value for money, both during the year and when setting each annual budget.

Please see overleaf for your child's class from September.

As well as having seven 'single-form' classes, the Governors are able to maintain a good level of leadership provision for 2024-2025. I, as Headteacher will continue to not be class-based for the majority of the week, although I will still enjoy teaching across the school as and when required. Amongst many other responsibilities, Mrs Salter, who works as Assistant Head four days per week, will also be teaching in class on a regular basis, both to 'release' the teachers to complete a range of tasks and to cover absence, meaning that our use of external supply teachers will be minimal.

At the end of this term, we are bidding farewell to three teaching assistants; Mrs Cresswell, Miss Wheatley and Miss Winstone. Mrs Cresswell has worked across a number of classes, from Ash to Oak, over the past eight years and has made a huge contribution to school life. Her artistic talents have appeared on displays, play scenery, and even in the design of our most recent mosaic. She has also been a staunch supporter of Penrose, even after her children left the school, and has enjoyed seeing their wide-ranging success in recent times! We wish Becci every happiness as she takes more time to support her children through the 'exam years'. We are sure that we'll still see her from time to time.

Both Miss Wheatley (Maple) and Miss Winstone (Rowan) have been with us for a shorter amount of time, but have also made a very positive impact at Chesterton – particularly with their involvement in Breakfast Club and Tree House. I am delighted to say that their experiences with us have cemented their desire to continue their careers in education as teachers and we wish them the very best as they begin their teacher training years.

We will shortly be welcoming back Mrs Leonard from her maternity leave, following the birth of Ezra last autumn.

All classes will continue to be supported by a team of very capable and experienced Teaching Assistants. We have successfully recruited three new members of staff and will let you know their names in due course (once current employers have been informed).

The Governors, along with Mrs Linfoot (School Business Manager), have worked tirelessly on the budget and associated matters to support the staff and myself in providing a well-maintained and appropriately resourced school, with high quality staff to meet the needs of all our pupils. Their support, and the support of the Chesterton parents during this challenging year, has been greatly appreciated as always.

Finally, we are making a small change to the school day from September 2024, in order to comply with the regulations surrounding the number of teaching hours in the school week (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/length-of-the-school-week-minimum-expectation>). As previously communicated to you, this requires us to add 5 minutes per day, which we have decided to do in the morning. There were a number of reasons for this, including pupils generally being more receptive to learning in the morning, timetabling benefits for phonics/spelling (often the first lesson of the day) and after-school commitments for pupils. Therefore, our new timings will be 8.45-3.15. We will still open the school gate at 8.40, as this should give enough time for all pupils to arrive and line up on the playground. As always, we ask you to leave enough time to park safely and considerately and ensure that your child enters the school gate before the bell goes.

Yours sincerely,

Mr I. Horner (Headteacher)



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EYFS and Key Stage One:		
Year Group	Class Name	Teacher
Reception	Maple Class	Miss H. Spencer
Year 1	Beech Class	Mrs E. Caulfield (Mon-Tues) Mrs I. Leonard (Weds-Fri)
Year 2	Ash Class	Mrs H. Evans (Mon-Tues) Ms. J. Gould (Weds-Fri)
Key Stage Two:		
Year 3	Chestnut Class	Miss S. Crockett
Year 4	Hawthorn Class	Miss M. Hawtin
Year 5	Rowan Class	Miss N. Barrett
Year 6	Oak Class	Miss S. Baxter

ACADEMIC YEAR 2024 – 2025

PLEASE NOTE:

Autumn Term 1	<p>Wednesday 4th September to Friday 25th October 2024</p> <p>INSET Days: Monday 2nd and Tuesday 3rd September 2024</p> <p>October Half-Term Holiday: Monday 28th October to Friday 1st November 2024</p>
Autumn Term 2	<p>Monday 4th November to Friday 20th December 2024</p> <p>Christmas Holiday: Monday 23rd December 2024 to Friday 3rd January 2025</p>

* New school day timings: 8.45-3.15