



## Bishop John Robinson CofE Primary School

Headteacher: Mr Matthew Harris NPQH  
Assistant Headteacher: Miss Sarah Biney NASENCO  
School Business Manager: Mrs Karen Fletcher CSBM

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Monday, July 10, 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

I would like to thank you for your patience and understanding over the few months whilst I have been back in the classroom. As many of you know, we had an unexpected departure just before the Easter holidays, and so I stepped in to teach Year 4 until the end of the academic year. I have thoroughly enjoyed returning to the classroom, although the workload and pressure is definitely not sustainable.

I am pleased to confirm that we are fully staffed for September, and so Miss Biney and I will be back to our "normal" roles in the new academic year. Most importantly, this will mean we are more available to meet with parents and carers. I am exceptionally grateful to the many families who have shown such kind patience in waiting for meetings and appointments with us this term.

Details of your child's class teacher for September will be in the end of term Newsletter, with children spending the afternoon of Monday 24th July in their new classroom with their new teacher. Parents and carers will be able to collect their child from their new class, and so be able to meet next year's teacher. We have made great progress this year, and I am pleased that so many staff are continuing with us.

Sadly, we have also seen a sharp increase in families, who are experiencing hardships and difficulties outside school. Please be reassured that our priority will always be the children's safety and well-being. To safeguard our most vulnerable pupils this term, we have been unable to welcome parents and carers into school for our sports days. I have had some very positive conversations with governors about how we can mitigate some of the risks for next year, and Miss Biney and I will be working to ensure we can welcome parents and carers back into school for our sporting events next year.

Many of you will have noticed that we have some new faces in school. We have already welcomed Mrs Nicholls to our BJR family. She has settled into Year 1 exceptionally well (covering Mrs Ijagbone, following the birth of her daughter) and is already incredibly fond of her class. She has brought a wealth of experience with her, across Key Stage 1 and 2, and is also an experienced subject lead.

Miss Hewitt has joined us this week in Early Years (replacing Mrs Hale, who is very much enjoying her retirement!) and our youngest pupils have already made her feel very welcome indeed! She has a background in Early Years and early childhood development, so we are very excited to welcome her to our team.

Miss Chute will also be joining us in September (filling the vacancy left by Miss Ullah) and is an experienced phase leader and subject specialist.





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Following Mrs Valentine's promotion to another school, Mrs Ripley has also been successfully appointed as our new Assistant Headteacher and will be taking up her role from September. She will continue to be class-based, but will support Miss Biney and me with developing the strategic vision and direction of the school, as well as the day-to-day operation of the school.

We have an exceptionally strong team for the coming year, and I am confident that we will continue to build on our successes from this year, including our phenomenal SIAMS report last month. For those of you able and willing to help support the school to continue to develop, I would encourage you to consider volunteering as a parent governor on the school's governing board. Details of this were shared recently, but if you'd like any further information about what this role entails or how to be nominated, please contact the school office.

I look forward to an enjoyable final few weeks of the summer term,

Yours faithfully,

Mr Matthew Harris  
Headteacher