Dear Parents,

Staffing News

We have a few staffing changes taking place this Autumn that I would like to share with you.

Mr Milne will be leaving us in July to take up a senior teaching post at an international school in Dubai. During his time with us, Mr Milne has been instrumental in the development of the KS1 curriculum and his enthusiasm and great humour will be sorely missed by us all. However, with an opportunity such as this on his horizon, we really do have to let him go. Hopefully, there will be opportunities to Skype him with his new class, once he has settled in.

Miss Ruddock will also be leaving us at the end of this term. Her two years with us have seen the growth of our Year 1 class, especially in terms of the transition that the children make from Reception into Year 1. Miss Ruddock will be taking up a KS2 teaching post at a school near to her home town, where she will be moving back to over the summer holidays.

Where Miss Ruddock goes, Jack, our drumming teacher goes too! We are currently in conversation with another potential peripatetic drum teacher to take over Jack’s pupils and will keep you updated with this as we confirm further details. I know you will want to join me in wishing all three members of staff every success in their future careers.

In addition to these teachers leaving the school, Mrs Miller and her husband have decided that, after many years ‘down South’, it’s time for them to sell up and move back to Durham. Mrs Miller will, therefore, not have a class in the Autumn term, but has agreed to stay on with us until she is ready to leave. I am delighted that she will remain with us, even for a short period, in order to set up some of the curriculum enrichment projects that we are keen to develop next year.

I am delighted to confirm that I have been able to secure the employment of two highly experienced teachers to bring their skills to our team in September.

Miss May joins us as an experienced Early Years teacher, with a wealth of practical knowledge on the early aspects of children’s learning, transition into Year 1 and assessment of young children across the curriculum. She has also led a number of parent workshops at her current school and has developed strong links with other local schools in her area. We look forward to her transferring these skills and her enthusiasm for teaching to working with the children of Dormansland.

Miss Carter, an experienced teacher of 15 years, trained as a professional viola player at the Royal Academy. She is highly proficient in the development of English and Music across the school and will be joining our Middle Leadership team as English Lead this Autumn.
With these two new members of staff on our team and with the Ofsted development points firmly focused in our minds, I can’t wait for the new academic year to begin, as I truly believe it is going to be an exciting time for us all at Dormansland. Together with the support staff, admin team, Governors and parents, I couldn’t ask for a better team around me to be leading the children to aspire to even greater heights next year.

The children will be meeting their new class teachers on Tuesday 19th July, for a short session during the afternoon. The teachers will make themselves available for brief conversations in the playground with parents after school that same afternoon, weather permitting.

I know that you will all make both our new members of the teaching team extremely welcome when they arrive at Dormansland.

Yours sincerely,

Sarah Stokes