



THE TITHE ACADEMY
EARLSMEAD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Head Teacher - Barbara Graham
B.A., Grad. Dip. Ed. (Primary), MBA Candidate

Telephone: 020 8864 5546

ARUNDEL DRIVE
SOUTH HARROW
MIDDLESEX
HA2 8PW

Email: office@earlsmead.harrow.sch.uk
<http://www.earlsmeadprimaryschool.co.uk>

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Dear Parents/Carers,

Although we have been busily preparing for next year, I am unable to name any class teachers at this time. We have a structure in place but, as there is another round of recruitment on 4th July, there may be some further movement of teachers in order to best place each teacher according to their skills. For this reason, I will let pupils know their classes and teachers on 5th July.

Moving up day will take place on the 6th July as previously communicated.

The timing is quite tight but due to the difficulties that are being felt across the nation (and most certainly in London) in terms of recruiting quality teaching staff we have been left with little choice. While not ideal, I would rather wait a little longer and get the right candidates in the right positions for the long-term rather than relying on supply staff unless absolutely necessary.

Some of you have, quite rightly, pointed out the inconsistency some children have had this year and I wholeheartedly agree with you on this matter. For this reason, I am concentrating on appointing substantive positions in every class. In the unfortunate event that we still require class teachers on supply next year, I may not be able to provide a name for that class until the summer holidays. Let's hope we have a successful final recruitment drive on 4th July.

While I can not inform you of class teachers just yet, I can let you know how classes will be structured and located within the school site – see overleaf. We have chosen this structure as we believe it provides the best opportunities and provision for children. The number of Reception classes is under revision as we are still within the enrolment phase.

As the diagram shows, I have made the decision to put both Key Stage 1 classes (Years 1 and 2) in two smaller groups. This makes sense educationally. Therefore, next year's Year 1 classes will start the year with around 22 pupils and each Year 2 class next year will start with under 20. We feel this is the best option for the children.

We have thought carefully about which children will be allocated to which classes, particularly in the case of the Year 3/4 Manuka multi-age class. The pupils in this class will follow the national curriculum objectives for their year level. We have made sure to consider their social needs, friendship groups, maturity levels, adaptability and learning needs. Input into the composition of each class has been provided by all current class teachers, the SENCo and Senior Leadership Team.

It is good for children to experience classes with different classmates so that their circle of friends and acquaintances can be extended beyond the traditional age boundaries. They will, however, still have opportunities to work with their age-level peers such as play times, lunch times, special activities, assemblies, trips and school performances.

If you wish to discuss your situation or have any unanswered queries, please contact the school office to make an appointment with me. I will contact you all again as soon as possible with further information.

Yours faithfully,

B. Graham
Headteacher

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