



20th July 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

STAFFING NEWS AT ARK OVAL

I am aware that some of you have expressed concerns, about the number of changes in staffing, over the last academic year. I would like to acknowledge that it has been a difficult year, particularly with no Deputy Head in post since Ms Patel left in February.

When I took up post on 2nd November, I was informed that 5 teachers and 4 senior leaders had resigned during the half term. Fortunately, I managed to persuade the senior leaders to stay, but was faced with recruiting 5 replacement teachers mid-year, which is always a challenge as great teachers usually would not leave their class mid-year. We have been very fortunate however, that many of the teachers appointed have proved to be very strong and will be staying on at Oval.

As with most schools, there are often staff changes at the end of the academic year.

The following staff will be leaving us as follows:

Ms Watts and Ms Scarpati are leaving us to work at schools nearer their homes.

Mr Erskine and Ms Maloney are leaving us as they are relocating out of London.

Mrs Vernon-Williams, Mr Enoch and Ms Sylva are leaving us to start their teacher training.

As you know Ms Francis will be taking up her permanent post in Birmingham in September. She will be in school tomorrow to say all her goodbyes.

I know you will join me in thanking all of these staff, for all their hard work and wishing them well for the future.

Leadership Staffing News

Mrs Williams has decided that she would like to train as a Social Worker, near her home in Liverpool, but will be back with us for the first couple of weeks in September before starting her course.

I am delighted to announce that we have been successful in appointing an experienced Deputy Head, called Karen Branson, who will start in September.

Sarah Lakeman has been successfully appointed as Assistant Headteacher for Safeguarding and Pastoral care (to take over from Mrs Williams) and will take up post in the Autumn term, when her current maternity cover post ends.

Lauren Thomas joins us in September, as an experienced Phonics leader.

Finally, I would like to share the exciting news that Mrs Lauder is pregnant and expecting a baby in the Autumn term. She expects to return in September and hopefully start her maternity leave at October half term.

I am really looking forward to September and the rest of the academic year, with the above appointments and recently developed Phase leader team – Miss Mac, Mrs McDonald, Miss Butac and Miss Goodall, which I am confident will help me lead the school from strength to strength.

Very best wishes

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Silke', written in a cursive style.

Ali Silke
Principal

Tel: 020 8688 3000

Email: info@arkovalprimary.org

Website: www.arkovalprimary.org