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Twineham CE Primary School, Twineham, Haywards Heath, West Sussex, RH17 5NR

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome to the new school year 2016-17 at Twineham CE School. We have an exciting term ahead and I would like to share our plans with you and take the opportunity to introduce myself further.

## My background

I have been teaching for 13 years in a wide range of schools across the county. My role for the last 4 years as Deputy Headteacher at St Giles in Horsted Keynes has prepared me well for my headship at Twineham CE School; I greatly value and respect the opportunities and challenges of working in a small village school. I enjoyed a secondment opportunity last year in a school improvement role, driving standards forward to ensure the best outcomes for children. I also have two young children at school in West Sussex myself; I have a parent's perspective on how primary education should give pupils the best possible school experience. As a school leader I value the opportunity to help every child to feel valued and blessed with opportunities, support and challenge to achieve their full potential.

## Welcome back to Jan Bradbury

We are very happy to welcome back Jan Bradbury after her absence. She is thrilled to be back and will bring her valuable experience to enrich pupils' learning in Holly Class. We are grateful to Mrs Vaughan for supporting the school with her expert teaching and she will now focus on her vital role as SENDCo.

#### **Forest Schools**

Year 4 pupils enjoyed a great start to their Forest Schools sessions this week. We are grateful to Crispin and Catherine for their tireless work leading FOTS, and our parents' valuable help, to fund such a great opportunity for pupils. Marc Easton, an experienced Forest Schools Leader with expertise in bushcraft skills, has an exciting range of challenges ahead, ably supported by Laura and Mrs Haynes. The children have already made natural dyes using foraged berries, developed their craft skills and explored fire-lighting with the safety of a fire circle.

### **Celebration Assemblies**

Our first Celebration Assembly will take place next week on Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September. I have already seen some fabulous work and I look forward to helping the pupils share their efforts and







achievements with you. Class Teachers will send a slip home on a Friday to let you know if your child has been chosen for the following week's celebration. We will begin with Buttercups each week to avoid asking our youngest children to sit for too long in the hall. Respect certificates will be awarded in Key Stage Assemblies.

# Invitation to see classrooms after school next week

You are warmly invited to pop in after school any day next week from Monday 12<sup>th</sup> September to view your child's classroom. We look forward to seeing you.

# **LEGO Club**

I am keen to set up a Lego club in school. Lego not only provides enjoyment for pupils but building models can be fantastic for problem solving, teamwork and developing the skill of transforming ideas into tangible objects. If you have any spare Lego that you would like to donate to the school please bring it in, it will be greatly appreciated.

### **School Vision**

We have a set of aims and values at Twineham CE School reflecting our commitment to developing children as happy, engaged learners and responsible citizens. This term we will be developing our school vision to communicate our message clearly to everyone in the school community. We will be seeking input from parents, Governors and pupils. This will form part of our School Development Plan which you will hear more about in the coming weeks. Pupil voice is an essential part of our focus on rights and responsibilities; your children will play an important part in identifying our values and how we can fulfil and celebrate them.

# Diary dates

Please note these important dates for this term:

- Assessment Meeting for Y6 parents on Monday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 3pm this meeting will inform you about Year 6 SATs tests in May
- INSET days: Friday 7<sup>th</sup> October, Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February, Monday 12<sup>th</sup> June and Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July
- 6 weeks in meeting Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at 2:15pm
- FOTS new parents coffee –Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> September
- FOTS Welly Walk Friday 30<sup>th</sup> September (to raise money for Forest Schools)
- FOTS AGM: Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> October at Royal Oak, 8pm
- FOTS Quiz Night: Friday 21<sup>st</sup> October
- FOTS Fireworks: tbc
- Parent consultations Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> November 5.30-7.30pm and Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> November 2.00-5.00pm
- Decorations day and FOTS Christmas Fair Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December
- KS1 Christmas performance dress rehearsal to school Mon 12<sup>th</sup> December 9am, performances to parents Tue 13<sup>th</sup> December 2pm and Wed 14<sup>th</sup> December 9am
- FOTS Christmas Disco at Hickstead: Wed 14<sup>th</sup> December 5:30pm-7pm
- Carol service Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December 9am
- FOTS Christmas Disco: Wed 14<sup>th</sup> December
- Christmas parties Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> December pm

I look forward to meeting you over the coming weeks and thank you for welcoming me to your school. Our new pupils in Reception have made a wonderful start to their journey here. The children have been delightful to work with this week and they are truly an asset to the school. I am proud to be here and excited about the journey ahead.

Yours sincerely, Scott Reece