



## St John the Baptist C of E Primary School

**Address:** Vale Road, Colwick, Nottingham NG4 2ED

**Tel:** 0115 9115599 **Fax:** 0115 9871693

**Email:** [office@st-johns-pri.notts.sch.uk](mailto:office@st-johns-pri.notts.sch.uk)

**Head Teacher:** Miss R Ireland

03 December 2019

Dear Parents/Carers

It is with much excitement and pride that I write this, my first letter to you, as the incoming Headteacher of St John the Baptist Primary School. I am delighted to be leading the school into the next phase of its journey after Christmas.

Our school is currently in a good position, having done well in its two most recent inspections, has stable and experienced staff and a flourishing Governing body.

I will continue to honour the school vision of 'life in all its fullness' and the fruits identified in the school vision tree. In this transitional period, which will inevitably see some changes, I see the key priorities for the school as being:

- Building on the firm foundations that we have in FS stage and KS1
- Continuing the new and exciting building projects that have begun allowing your children better access to individual and tailored support
- Fulfilling the needs of the school outlined in the school Improvement Plan that I have co-written with senior staff and governors in July.
- Ensuring continuity in teaching and learning with the strong staff team we have at St Johns
- Continuing to build upon the valuable residential program
- Ensuring there is a nurturing and caring approach to every child and their families.
- Further developing our Christian identity

Transition into headship this half term has been running smoothly and Mr Belton has been sure to keep me fully informed of all the expected duties. This period of time has been particularly useful as it has meant that I have been able to begin some of these duties early. One of those has been to look at the staffing structure with effect from January 2020.

### Staffing

The first job has been to appoint a Deputy Headteacher. I trust that you will join me in congratulating Mrs Belton, who has secured this position on an acting basis until July 2020. She will be carrying out these duties on a Mon-Thurs. This will build on her secondment experience of Deputy Headship at Cotgrave CofE school.

I am also pleased to announce that Mr Mazzotti has secured a secondment opportunity at Ravenshead CofE school for one term as acting Deputy Headteacher. Mrs Doel will be teaching Class 3 for the spring term until Easter when it is planned that Mr Mazzotti will return to St Johns.

In Class 2 Mrs Charlesworth will become the full time class teacher until July 2020. This offers a consistent and secure basis for the children in Class 2, particularly as the Year 2 SATs fast approach.

Miss Walster (our regular cover teacher) will join Mrs Haythorn in Foundation, teaching the class on a Friday. Mrs Haythorn will continue in her role as EYFS leader and will be teaching FS class on a Mon-Thurs.

Congratulations also go to Miss Michalska, who is expecting a baby in April. We are currently planning to cover her maternity leave from the Breakfast Club and lunchtime teams.

It is with sadness that we say goodbye to not only Mr Belton, but Mrs Johnson too. She plans to spend quality time with her young family as her maternity leave comes to an end.

And finally I am sure you will all support me with well wishes and goodbyes for Mr Belton as the term, and his 15-year tenure comes to an end. I feel privileged to have worked alongside him for the last 6 and a half years, and it is clear to see the positive impact that he has had on the St Johns community. His legacy will continue and I am pretty sure that will not be the last we see of him!

### **TOP SECRET!!**

We are planning to celebrate Mr Belton's last day with us (Friday 20 December) by inviting the children to come to school dressed as Mr Belton. The children have come up with some ideas during assembly, and have suggested pilot, mechanic, car driver, teacher, Star Wars character, Star Trek character, Superhero, Lego Man. Christmas parties will also take place throughout the day where the children will be able to celebrate with Mr Belton. Keep your eyes out for an additional letter from class teachers nearer the time to request donations of party food to share as we usually do for parties. We will also be sharing our favourite memories of Mr Belton. Amongst all of this will be a few other surprises too!

**So please keep this quiet from Mr Belton so he enjoys his day!**

The governing body has been assisting me throughout this transition period and it will be business as usual from the staff team.

I look forward to working with you in this new capacity, and maybe adding a few more butterflies rather than planes to the school site!

Best wishes



Miss Rachel Ireland

Headteacher