

## Roselands Infant School

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**Executive Headteacher:** John Maxwell



**Roselands & Stafford**  
Federation

## Stafford Junior School

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**Heads of School:** Carol Wallis/Mike Walton

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

# Welcome Back!

I hope you all had a happy and restful summer. It has been lovely to see the children settle back into school so quickly and smoothly, and they are all looking very smart in their uniforms!

Behind the scenes last year, we were undergoing a significant staffing restructure. Unlike many other schools, however, this was focused on adding to the number of staff at each school and on clarifying roles and responsibilities. As a result, we have a number of new staff joining us; some new roles for existing staff; and some more recruitment to do over the coming weeks.

### New staff at Roselands:

- Miss Dargon who joins us as Dolphins teacher in Reception;
- Miss Scott who joins us as Tigers teacher in Year 2;
- Mrs Luck who is the Receptionist and Admin Officer for Roselands;
- Mrs Cassiano who is the Pupil Support Manager at Roselands, managing the children's attendance, admissions, medical care plans and first aid across the school.

### New staff at Stafford:

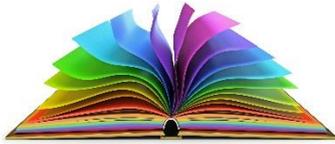
- Mr Nash who joins us as a Learning Mentor. This is a new post for the Federation and has been set up to broaden our fantastic Nurture and behaviour support provision;
- Mrs Jackson who joins the team at Starlands as our Nurture Assistant, working with Mrs Fitton who is also now a Learning Mentor alongside Mr Nash;
- Mrs Defty who is the Receptionist and Admin Officer for Stafford;
- Mrs Scott who is sharing the job of Pupil Support Manager with Mrs Carey, who many of you will already know as she has worked at both schools for many years. Mrs Carey will be working on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays, and Mrs Scott will be working on Thursdays and Fridays.

In July, I wrote to you and announced that we would have two teams supporting the teachers and children in class. The Support Team in each school will be teaching assistants (TAs) who are based mainly in class, supporting all the children, and the teachers. The year groups will have different numbers of TAs depending on the ages of the children. Our TAs are:

- Reception: Mrs Curran, Miss Beckwith and Miss Cookson
- Year 1: Mrs Haffenden, Mrs Cooper (part-time) and Mrs Clifton (part-time)
- Year 2: Mrs Winters
- Year 3: Mr Akehurst, Mrs Scott (shared with Year 4) and Mrs Springett (shared with Year 4)
- Year 4: Mrs Harrison, Mrs Scott (shared with Year 3) and Mrs Springett (shared with Year 3)
- Year 5: Mrs Attwell and Mrs Slater (Mrs Slater shared with Year 6)
- Year 6: Mr Coldwell and Mrs Slater (Mrs Slater shared with Year 5)

We are also in the process of recruiting two apprentice TAs, one to join the team in Year 1 and one to join the team in Year 2.

The second team is our Inclusion Team, who are Individual Needs Assistants (INAs) who will provide support for children who have identified additional needs, either one-to-one or in small groups. Mrs Groome and Mrs Topalli are already on this team and we are currently recruiting seven more INAs to join them. Until they are ready to start, we are lucky to have secured some fantastic agency staff to cover some of these duties.



In the newsletter last year, I wrote about ways we celebrate birthdays in school. Over the last few years, it has become common for parents to provide class teachers with sweets or cakes on their child's birthday. We would like to change this tradition, not only because we want to be a healthy school, but also because we have a number of children who can't enjoy these treats because they have allergies to certain ingredients. We therefore will not be handing out birthday sweets or cakes at either school. If you would like to celebrate your child's birthday in school, we would love you to buy a children's book, instead of sweets, and this can be enjoyed by all the children.

I mentioned earlier how smart their children look in their uniforms. Please make every effort to follow our uniform expectations, and please make sure all their uniform and PE kit is labelled. Please also remember that every child must have their PE kit in school every day – they only get worn for two hours in most weeks, so will not need to be washed until half term in most year groups.



As well as their uniform, the children all need a coat, as we like to get them out to play in all but the worst of weathers. In the warmer months, a light, waterproof jacket is ideal, but once the weather turns colder, they will need a thicker, warmer winter coat, also named.



You may also be aware that we have a new catering company, Harrisons, providing our cooked dinners at both schools. The first meals have been met with very positive responses from the children (and the staff!), with comments about "delicious food", "great flavours" and "fantastic value". We will make sure that the school website is updated with our new menus for you, and with some details about how you can pay for lunches through the School Gateway app.

A few other reminders:

- The Stafford gates open at 8.20am, and the whistle for the start of the day blows just before 8.35am
- The Roselands gates open at 8.15 and the children go straight into class from 8.35am. School officially starts at 8.45am.
- The Roselands day ends at 2.50pm. Reception and Year 1 children are picked up from the playground outside their fenced outdoor areas, while Year 2 children are brought to the main playground by their teachers.
- The Stafford day ends at 3.10pm, and all the children are brought into the main playground by their teachers.
- All the children should have a water bottle in school, which they can fill from the class taps. We do not allow them to have squash, cordial or other flavourings in these bottles.
- Clubs will be starting soon, and more information will be coming out next week.

Finally, we have been reviewing our newsletter this summer. We know that some parents find it useful and enjoy hearing about school each week, but many parents also tell us that they simply don't read it. We have therefore decided to make a change! We will be launching The Federation Flyer at the end of September. This will be filled with lots of news and updates to keep you informed, and will be published monthly. In addition to this, we want to make much better use of our website (<https://www.roselands-stafford.org>) and our Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/rsfederation>), as many parents have told us that this is how they would prefer to get information and news. We will also make better use of emails to get reminders about dates and forthcoming events.

Thank you for your ongoing support,

  
Executive Headteacher