



Hale Nursery and Primary Academy
Upper Hale Road
Farnham
Surrey
GU9 0LR

Tel: 01252 716729
Email admin@hale.kite.academy
Website: www.hale.kite.academy

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Dear Families,

I hope you are all well and keeping warm in this cold weather!

I am writing to inform you that Mrs Gafford has, for personal reasons, made the decision to leave Hale Nursery and Primary academy. Mrs Gafford will be leaving at the end of this term, which means her last day with us will be Friday 20th December. I know you will join me in wishing her well in the future.

Due to a national reduction in pupil numbers, we currently have two very small year 3 classes with only 15 children in each; this makes a total of 30 pupils which is the national average class size in Key stage 2.

As a result of this we have taken the decision to combine Princeton and Stanford class from the 1st of January with Miss Heighton as the class teacher. Miss Heighton, who many of you know, is a fantastic and experienced class teacher; she already knows and has a great relationship with all of the children in year 3. In order to ensure we keep the pupil to adult ratio the same we will also be ensuring an additional staff member is in place to offer continued support to the class. From the 1st of January the class will now be called Winchester Class and will be based in the current Stanford classroom.

Between now and the end of this term we will be supporting all our year 3 children with this move by providing transition opportunities for them to come together, both socially and academically. They have already been successfully working together on a Thursday morning and from this week they will spend more time together building relationships and routines and taking part in lessons as a group. Having this now extended social group will also benefit the children as they move through key stage 2.

Mrs Gafford, Miss Heighton and the leadership team, will continue to work together to ensure a smooth transition for all our pupils and will build in a time for Princeton parents to meet with Miss Heighton before the Christmas break.

Thank you for your support and understanding. If you do have any questions please do not hesitate to contact either myself or Mrs Harrison.

Kind regards

Clare Freeman
Headteacher



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