

Woodnewton – a learning community
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18 July 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

School Staff Update

As we know, this time of year brings some exciting changes ready for September 2022.

It is with great pleasure that I am writing to update you on some successful recruitments and promotions within the Senior Leadership Team at Woodnewton. I would like to say huge congratulations to Kate West who has been promoted to Head of School and Julie Medhurst who has been promoted to Senior Deputy Head. I am sure you will be as delighted with these changes as I am. Additionally, to confirm, I am really proud to remain the Headteacher of the school.

I am thrilled, although sad, to announce that Adam Palmer has been successful in a Headship at one of schools in the Trust we belong to - IFtL Trust. Adam is going to be the Headteacher of St Marys and St Giles in Milton Keynes. I know we will all be sad to see him leave as he has made such a huge difference to us all at Woodnewton. However, the good news is that Adam will remain on our governing body and will still take an active interest in Woodnewton.

I am pleased to welcome Katharine Harle who will be joining Woodnewton as deputy head commencing in September. She is very much looking forward to joining us and has already started to come and visit us including enjoying our wonderful school fete. Gemma Wylde is currently on maternity leave and enjoying her very special time with her beautiful little girl Amelie and hopefully will be returning next year.

I am also sad to say goodbye to Sarah Gaziano and would like to thank her for all her amazing hard work, especially in FS1 (Nursery) throughout her twenty years at Woodnewton. Sarah was instrumental in setting up the provision when the nursery moved into the Muggleton building. She has been a massive part of our family and we would like to wish her the very best in her journey.

Caroline Webb has also sadly decided to leave after 10 years to have a change in career – again I know we all wish her the very best of luck in her new venture. Thank you, Caroline, for everything you have done.

Sabena Butt, PPA cover supervisor at KS1 has left to undertake her teaching qualification – this is very exciting for Sabena as her dream is to become a teacher and I know she is very keen to return to Woodnewton as a fully qualified teacher. Good luck Sabena and you know where we are if you would like to do any placements here.

We are pleased to be welcoming back Hannah Jones in September who begins her teacher training and we are very excited to be supporting her on this journey.

We are also sad to say goodbye to Alan Hickinbottom, our caretaker, who has looked after us so well over the last year. He has left for a post in a hotel. Good luck Alan.

In addition, we would like to thank Tracy Bosworth for her efforts in stepping into the role as a FS2 (Reception) teacher and doing a fantastic job for the spring/summer term. Tracy is also a part of our family and am sure our paths will cross again. Thank you for everything and no doubt see you again soon!

Finally, a huge thank you to Rebecca Sharples and Carla Martins for the valuable one-to-one support they have provided this year and we are delighted that we will continue to still see them around the school in their roles as lunchtime supervisors.

Change always comes with mixed feelings but I know everyone will be brilliant in their new or change of roles.

For those of you leaving us, we are sad to see you go and I sincerely hope our paths will cross again. We wish everyone all the best for the future and we will miss you all.

Best wishes,

Kim Kemp – Headteacher