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Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

### Re Year 5

I am writing to let you know that Ms Wood will be leaving us after Easter and so next week will be her last week with us. Ms Wood is hoping to move up to the Leeds area with her husband where she is looking forward to some new adventures. We wish them both all the very best for the future.

This term we have been thinking very carefully about Year 5 as a whole, and we have been observing and monitoring them carefully! We have been watching and listening to:

- their social interactions
- their conversations during unstructured times
- their friendships
- their progress (as part of regular pupil progress meetings as well as informal senior leadership monitoring)

as well as chatting informally with the children at any opportunity (often without them realizing that we were quizzing them on their views!). We have also shared some thoughts and ideas with parents and Governors and listened to some feedback.

From everything that we have seen, heard and discussed, we have decided that we are going to make some changes to the way that Year 5 is organized and build on some strategies that we have used in the past and that have been recommended to us by other schools and professionals.

The main changes for Year 5 are that the staffing is going to be changing and the learning is going to be becoming much more unique and bespoke to individual needs. From after Easter the teachers are going to be Miss Doherty (our Year 5 teacher last year up until May when she went on Maternity Leave). She will teach on a Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and then Mr Gresswell (who is currently a Year 5 teacher). He will teach on a Thursday and Friday (and perhaps a little on the other days). They will be joined by 3 experienced Teaching Assistants who are currently within our school and who have specialisms that they will utilize with the children in groups, and individually.

**We would like to invite you all to a meeting on Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March at 3.20pm in the School Hall when we will share our exciting plans with you as parents.** Our children will have the arrangements and changes explained to them separately. There will be a film on in Ms Wood's classroom for the children and any siblings during the meeting.



I would also like to take this opportunity to share with you that we have arranged an amazing Team Building day for the children **on Monday** in order to develop their social skills and their resilience, empathy, self-awareness and character. The company is called Commando Joe's and you can find out more about them here.

[CJ's Education Services - Commando Joe's \(commandojoes.co.uk\)](http://commandojoes.co.uk)

The complete cost of this wonderful experience is being met by the school and it is on site at school with school staff involved as well as the staff from Commando Joe's. The children will need to bring a tracksuit, t-shirt, fleece and trainers into school in a named bag to change into for the day.

We really hope that the children have an amazing day and we are sure that they will learn much from the experience which we may well continue during the summer term if it is successful.

We hope that you are able to join us on Tuesday at 3.20pm, a summary of the meeting and powerpoint slides will be sent out before Easter for those who are unable to attend.

As always if you have any questions or queries please do not hesitate to ask either myself, Mrs Woodhart who is the Year 5 and 6 Phase Leader, or Mr Gresswell.

Kind Regards

Alison Fox

Headteacher

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**Year 5 Meeting Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

Child's Name ..... Class .....

I am able to attend the meeting about Year 5 on Tues 28<sup>th</sup> March at 3.20 in the school hall.

I am unable to attend the meeting about Year 5 on Tues 28<sup>th</sup> March at 3.20 in the school hall.

Signed ..... Name.....

