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**Houghton Conquest
Lower School**

Growing together

Headteacher
Miss C A McCarthy

Value of the Month: Happiness

14th July 2020

Dear parents/carers

Academic Year 2020/2021

As we approach the end of this academic year, as promised, we would like to give you a full overview of each class and our teacher deployment when we return to school in September.

Early Years Foundation Stage

Robins Foundation stage 2020/21: Miss Crowhurst will be returning to Houghton Conquest Lower School following her maternity leave this year. She will be the lead teacher for the foundation stage class. Miss Crowhurst will be teaching every morning and a full day each Tuesday with a main focus on leading the core teaching and learning of the children. To facilitate a strong link between the pre-school and the school Miss Meech (Sophie), who is an aspiring teacher, will be working in the classroom in the afternoons under the direction of Miss Crowhurst.

Many of our children from pre-school are already familiar with Miss Meech and this will whole-heartedly support your child's transition to school. We are very keen to grow our own talent at Houghton Conquest Lower School and will always support, where possible, members of staff who wish to progress and develop. Miss Meech will continue to be the Room Leader for our Preschool and will be 'on the floor' at Preschool every morning and all day Tuesday. We as a school look forward to Miss Meech bringing her extensive knowledge of the Early Years Foundation Curriculum to the Robins and supporting her in her future career goals.

Preschool 2020/21: We are delighted to let you know we will have a full staffing complement for preschool for next year with Sophie, Danielle, Tracy and Lucy. Danielle and Tracy are both Level 3 qualified and they will be working alongside Lucy, who is looking to further her development within Early Years, during the afternoons when Sophie is 'off the floor'. Demand for our preschool has grown this year as our team has strengthened and we look forward to continuing this superb provision provided by the team going forward.



KS1

Doves Year 1 2020/21: Miss Mitchell has settled well to Houghton Conquest Lower School from being new to our school staffing team last year. She will be consolidating her knowledge of the year 1 curriculum next year as she progresses through her teaching career. The Doves classroom will be located in the old Eagles classroom, where Miss Mitchell is excited to create an exciting learning environment for her new children.

Owls Year 2 2020/21: Miss Heaslip will be the lead teacher for Owls class. Miss McCarthy, alongside her co-head role, will also provide some teaching to this class allowing Miss Heaslip time to carry out her co-head duties. The Owls classroom will remain in its current location.

KS2

We are delighted to inform you that we will be re-splitting our Year 3 and Year 4 children due to our current cohort sizes.

Hawks Year 3 2020/21: Mr Birchall will be teaching our Year 3 Lower Key Stage 2 class. This year Mr Birchall has led our merged Year 3 and 4 classes, which has enabled him to form good teaching techniques and strategies for our older children and their learning. He is excited to continue his sound knowledge of the year 3 curriculum with his new cohort. The Hawks classroom will be located in the current Doves classroom. This classroom will undergo some decorative changes this summer ready for September.

Eagles Year 4 2020/21: Mr Hetherington will be teaching the Year 4 class. Mr Hetherington has a good understanding of the year 4 national curriculum and is excited to continue his learning within this year group. Eagles will be located in the mobile classroom.

Transition Support

Unfortunately, your child has been unable to take part in our usual step-up-day arrangements, due to the current government restrictions. However please be rest assured that your child's new class teacher will be spending time completing some transition activities in September to support your child and the class teacher in getting to know each other and form those important professional rapports.

Your child's new class teacher will be sending your child a letter towards the end of this week to introduce themselves, so please do look out for this.

Last but not least I wanted to let you know that Mrs Kane will be leaving as she has been successful in obtaining a new teaching position that is full time and close to her family home. We will be sad to see her leave however; I know you will all join me in wishing her every success in her new school.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to get in contact.

Yours sincerely



Miss J Heaslip
Acting Headteacher