

Friday 4th September 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

First of all, may I take this opportunity of welcoming you all back to Temple Grafton School following the prolonged summer break. It is great to see all the children back at school experiencing again some sort of normality, being able to continue with their education, and most importantly, seeing all their friends, teachers and staff in the school environment.

The staff have all been working hard to ensure that your children are as safe as they can possibly be when they are in school. You have received communication informing you of the various changes that have been made which includes staggered start and finish times. The full risk assessment is available for you to read on our website, this is a lengthy document which details all the adjustments that have needed to be made following government guidance.

A particular welcome to all the new Reception children and their parents/carers. The children will be starting their education during an extraordinary time but I know that the teachers and staff of Temple Grafton have been working extremely hard in their preparations for the school's full reopening to make sure the new children will be cared for and will really enjoy their first time at school.

At the end of last term, we said farewell to Mrs Sarah Hendry as Head of Temple Grafton School. Her hard work, tenacity and leadership made an outstanding contribution to the school and, given the circumstances, she was given a good send off on the last day of the summer term. Thank you for your contributions to her leaving present, she was very happy with her iPad Pro!

We are really happy that Mrs Mary Gray has become the new Head of Temple Grafton C of E Primary School. During her transition to Head of TG, Mrs Gray will be fully supported by the TG community, governors and as Temple Grafton School is part of the Arden Forest MAT, Mrs Gray will be supported by Mr Adam Walsh through his role as CEO and Executive Headteacher of the MAT. We also extend a warm welcome to Mr Christopher Boothroyd and Mrs Natalie Pellet-Ward who will be taking on Class 2 and Class 4 respectively and Mrs Claire Thomas, Teaching Assistant in Class 2. Both Mr Boothroyd and Mrs Pellet-Ward are very experienced teachers who will be assets to the Temple Grafton team.

In the nearly six months since March, the school has undergone many transformations from a childcare setting and virtual learning environment starting with 3 pupils on site through to our partial reopening in June and with the numbers attending childcare increasing week by week. Each transformation has required many hours of working through the DfE guidance (and the subsequent updates) followed by planning and preparation to ensure that we were implementing the guidelines safely. I am immensely proud of all the TG staff for the professional and positive manner in which they have adapted to the changes. Being part of the MAT has also been invaluable during the past few months and the Governors and staff will continue to work collaboratively with the other schools to improve the outcomes for the children of all our schools.



Moving forward, we are still experiencing uncertain times with Covid-19 still very much at large in the population. My thanks go to you as parents and carers for supporting the school during these times and to the children, who as one teacher described as dealing with the circumstances with 'good grace, adaptability, hard work, positivity, collaboration and hygiene!' We couldn't ask anything more.

Yours sincerely,

Cathy Barron

Chair of Governors - Temple Grafton C of E Primary School

