



**Rye Community Primary School & Starfish Pre-school**  
**The Grove, Rye, East Sussex TN31 7ND**  
**[www.ryeprimary.co.uk](http://www.ryeprimary.co.uk)**  
Headteacher: Miss Kelly Martin  
[office@ryeprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@ryeprimary.co.uk)  
01797 222825



4th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Over the past few weeks we have had some new faces who have joined our Rye Primary family, as we have been preparing to say farewell to some of our existing staff members as follows:

Mrs Foster is leaving us after 11 years at Rye Primary. During Mrs Foster's time with us, she has taught from Nursery up to year 6 and has always been committed and dedicated; whether teaching children how to play cooperatively in the sandpit or how to change fractions to percentages!

Mrs Newman is also leaving us at Christmas and has again demonstrated her flexibility and adaptability by expertly moving between KS2 and the nursery and back to KS2 again.

Mrs Davies only joined us in September and unfortunately for us, will also be leaving us at the end of this term to go back to her original school, now that they have a full time post for her. I know she will be really missed by her class.

We would like to thank all of these staff for their service throughout the years with us, whether many or few. We know that they have positively influenced the lives of children and families and have shaped many children on their path to leading a happy and fulfilling life. We wish you all every happiness and success in the future.

In January, we will be joined by Mrs Mandy Hinxman, who will be taking over from Mrs Foster on a Thursday and Friday in Orcas. Mrs Rowan Dale will be replacing Mrs Newman on a Thursday and Friday in Barracudas and Miss Hazel Flaherty, will be replacing Mrs Davies, full time, as the Marlin class teacher. You will receive a little more information on each teacher over the next few days and I am sure you will welcome them into the Rye Primary Family.

We are also thrilled that Miss Gracie Kimmitt will be joining us as an apprentice Pre-school Practitioner in January. We were truly blown away by her interview and the natural affinity she demonstrated with young children; she will be a great asset!

Mrs Tracey Heygate also joined our starfish family earlier in the term and comes with a wealth of knowledge; having previously been a class teacher before moving to nursery settings.

Mrs Michelle Clark, a familiar face known to many of you, also joined our team last week, as our Reception teaching assistant. We are thrilled that Mrs Clark returned to us, as she actually completed her TA training with us a few years ago. Again, Mrs Clark is already having such a positive impact in Minnows and we are thrilled she is part of the team!

Mr Tom Sanders who joined us as the Dolphins, Thursday and Friday class teacher, at the beginning of term 2, has also settled well and is making a positive impact in Dolphins class.

We all know that change can be unsettling and we ask for your support in speaking positively with your children about the staffing changes. We do find that children often adapt quicker than we do as adults!

To aid you in gaining an oversight of school staffing, I have included a table below- detailing where all staff members will be in January.

As always, please do contact me if you wish to discuss any of these matters further.

Kind regards,

Headteacher



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Class Name	Class Teacher	Teaching Assistant
Starfish Pre-school	Mrs Stevie McKennon	Mr Tyler Webb (Monday) Miss Michaela Wood (Tuesday-Friday) Mrs Tracey Haygate Miss Gracie Kimmitt
Reception – Minnows	Mrs Vicky Isted	Mrs Michelle Clark
Year 1 Clownfish	Mrs Sharron Haddock	Mrs Sheliegh Kimmitt Mrs Michaela Wilson
Year 2 Sea Turtles	Mrs Sarah Brewster	Mrs Elaine Leach
Year 3 and 4 Orcas	Mrs Charlotte Benn (Monday-Wednesday) Mrs Mandy Hinxman (Thursday and Friday) Mrs Kate Treacy (Teacher Training Programme)	Mr Drew Jenkinson
Year 3 and 4 Barracudas	Mrs Trisha Banks (Monday to Wednesday) Mrs Rowan Dale (Thursday and Friday)	Mrs Kelly Stansfield Mr Tyler Webb (Tuesday to Friday)
Year 5 and 6 Marlin	Miss Hazel Flaherty	Mrs Lucy Budd
Year 5 and 6 Sharks	Mr Philip Cameron	Mrs Viki Borthwick
Year 5 and 6 Dolphins	Miss Chloe Turton (Monday to Wednesday) Mr Tom Sanders (Thursday and Friday)	Mrs Karen Beeching