



3<sup>rd</sup> July 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well. As we fast approach the end of this academic year, I wanted to write to provide you with some updates.

### **Staffing Updates**









- We are sad to say that **Mr Ekers** will be leaving us at the end of this year. He is embarking on an extremely exciting relocation to South Africa in September, we will miss his enthusiasm and passion for Music greatly.
- **Miss Sails**, our fantastic Business Support Manager, will be leaving us at the end of August. As many of you will know, she has worked at our school for many years. We will miss her enthusiasm, significant knowledge, and the support she provides to the entire team that works at Avanti Gardens.
- **Miss Wyn** will also be leaving us. Miss Wyn joined us at the beginning of this term and has provided enthusiasm and consistency to Orchid Class following the departure of Miss Griffiths - we wish her well with her next role.

Schools nationwide are currently experiencing higher staff turnover. I am sure you will know this situation as it is widely reported in the news. People working in schools are seeking to find the more flexible benefits and approaches other sectors offer, such as home working, flexible hours, and higher remuneration. Recruitment to teaching is also now a challenging area and applications for training courses have dropped by 40% for next year.

### **Teachers for 2023/24 Academic Year**

More positively we have appointed enthusiastic staff for September. We do all we can to attract kind and knowledgeable staff and we thank you for the support and encouragement you give to all the staff on a daily basis. Please find below the teachers that will with each class for next year and the classes that they will be receiving. This information has been shared with your children today by their current class teacher:



Current Class and Teacher (2022/23)		New Class and Teacher (2023/24)
N/A		<b><u>(Orchid Class)</u></b> Miss Corcoran (EYFS Lead)
N/A		<b><u>EYFS (Lavender Class)</u></b> Miss Hardisty
Lavender Class Miss Smith		<b><u>Year 1 (Daffodil Class)</u></b> Miss Forde
Orchid Class Miss Wyn		<b><u>Year 1 (Lily Class)</u></b> Miss Lollover
Daffodil Class Miss Dark		<b><u>Year 2 (Elderflower Class)</u></b> Miss Dark
Lily Class Miss Lollover		<b><u>Year 2 (Sunflower Class)</u></b> Mrs Connelly (KS1 Lead)
Sunflower Class Mrs Connelly		<b><u>Year 3 (Iris Class)</u></b> Mr Syplywczak
Iris Class Mr Ekers		<b><u>Year 4 (Foxglove Class)</u></b> Miss Walters
Foxglove Class Miss Forde		<b><u>Year 5 (Jasmine Class)</u></b> Mr Nicol
Jasmine Class Miss Kitchen		<b><u>Year 6 (Snapdragon Class)</u></b> Mr Pickering (KS2 Lead)

As you can see, we are welcoming a number of new teachers in September due to members of our current team leaving alongside the exciting arrivals that both Miss Smith and Miss Kitchen are expecting at the beginning of the next academic year – I'm sure that you will welcome them warmly to our school community. You may have also noticed that Mr Newman is not assigned to a class, I am very happy to confirm that Mr Newman will be working across the school next year in his capacity as Assistant Principal to continue to support the development of our rich curriculum offer, teaching pedagogy required to deliver it, and in recognition of the number of new teachers we have joining us.

### **Transition Morning**

On Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> July, the classes will spend the morning with their new teachers within their new classrooms. These will be exciting mornings with a focus on developing relationships, creativity, and discussion about the year ahead. In the build-up to this event, children who the teachers are aware of will require some additional transition will receive this in conjunction with Mrs Rogers.

### **Meet the Teacher Events**

In September we will be writing to you to invite you to a 'meet the teacher' event which will give you a chance in the first few weeks to see you child's new classroom, hear a little about the year ahead from the class teachers, and ask any initial questions that you may have.

Best wishes,

Mr Penny

Principal