

7th January 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

My wish this week was to write a more personal letter to you all, as I mentioned in a previous letter which had to focus on Covid when the safe return to school and remote learning had to be a priority. Therefore I am counting this as my first letter. Although we sadly cannot meet face to face it gives me great pleasure to introduce myself as the new Headteacher of Hunton Primary School. Despite my start not being the one any of us envisaged, I want to begin by saying a huge thank you to everyone who has made me feel so welcome this week. It is lovely getting to know new faces and I have been very impressed with everyone's determination to secure learning for all the children whether it be in school or remotely at home. I have thoroughly enjoyed my first week at the school.

Just to tell you a little about myself. I have been in the teaching profession for a considerable number of years and taught in various local schools. My previous position was as Head of School at Loose Primary as well as being Inclusion Lead for the Trust as I have SENCo experience too. I am married and have 23-year-old twins who are now living back with us after being away at university. I remember being asked by the children at my interview what did I like doing best in my spare time and my answer was spending time with family and friends. I am sure we will be able to get back to doing this again.

I am excited to be a part of the next stage in the journey at Hunton and look forward to working with you all and of course, your amazing children. I would particularly like to welcome all our new children and families who, like me, are beginning their learning journey at Hunton this term.

At this present time please feel free to catch me on the playground in the mornings or at the end of the day if your child is in school otherwise please temporarily email me via nikki.tompkins@hunton.kent.sch.uk should you have any questions that you would like to ask. I believe passionately in working together and would encourage you all to speak with your child's class teacher should you have any concerns.

Please don't forget to keep us informed about any concerns or compliments you have, any suggestions you feel we should consider and, of course, anything you particularly like about our school. We are always happy to hear from you. I look forward to meeting more of you in the coming weeks.

Hunton School is a 'family' and it has a unique feel about it that is not easy to put into words. It thrives upon mutual respect and positive relationships. I look forward to working with you as parents, governors, the church and the wider community so that our school really begins to flourish once again.

The needs of the children are always paramount in the life and decision making within a school. I strongly believe in providing the children with exciting, creative and meaningful learning experiences, which build their enthusiasm for learning and help them grow and develop positively in a variety of ways.

On Monday, our staff development day was not only focused on keeping our school safe during Covid but also on a clear vision for Hunton. We can build and grow on the successes yet provide change where it is necessary for the school to progress. It is important to establish a clear vision for the future.

My four key drivers are relationships, high expectations, high aspirations and wellbeing. No significant learning occurs without a significant relationship and happiness in classrooms. It is important that the conditions and learning environment reflect your children's experience at school. It is the 'silent teacher' reflecting expectations and we need to make it a beautiful place to be. By us having high expectations, including manners, uniform and behaviour as well as academic achievements, the children will have high aspirations and believe that they can do it!



Associate Head Teacher
Mrs Anita Makey

Deputy Head Teacher
Mr. Ed Ming

Compassion, Hope, Reverence, Wisdom

I would like to give thanks and respect to two people who have significantly supported the school. Mr Ryan, who kindly offered to be Associate Headteacher whilst continuing his headship at St Margaret's, Collier St and Mr Ming, Deputy Headteacher, who has worked tirelessly and sensitively leading the school. I can see the work they have put into the school and many of you communicated your positive thoughts about them.

I am looking forward to working with the whole community and continuing to build on the success of the school. We have a committed staff and wonderful children and I will be listening to the views of the pupils and parents as we move forward. Hunton has many great strengths and the relationship between parents, staff and pupils is crucial to the success of the school. You can be assured that as Headteacher I will strive to create the best education for your child/children. I can see we have a hugely committed team and wonderful children which of course is a great place for any new head to start.

This is an exciting time for our school and I look forward to continuing to work with you all.

Sincerely yours
Anita Makey
Mrs Anita Makey
Headteacher

