



Ryecroft C.E. (C) Middle School

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Executive Headteacher: Mr P. Slack

Headteacher: Miss R. Baramuszcak

7th October 2016

Dear Parents,

It was a pleasure to meet you at the 'Meet the Head' evenings and to hear directly about what you feel is working well in school and also how things could be improved. We have carefully considered some of the key issues that were raised and I would like to detail how we are acting on your feedback.

Several parents were anxious about their child receiving appropriate support in mixed ability classes, in terms of stretch and challenge and additional help. In response to this, we have decided to make some changes to our current teaching model. From Monday 10th October, children in Year 6 will be set in ability groups for all lessons. They will also spend more time in their 'learning base' rather than moving from classroom to classroom for most lessons. The exceptions to this will be P.E, ICT, and Music which will take place in the designated specialist rooms. Maths in Year 6 will be set separately. In addition, children will be utilising the Science labs, DT and Food Technology rooms through project based work.

We will also be streamlining the tutor groups. This will not affect your child's allocated House or their sense of identity within the school. Each House will have two forms as shown below:

Arkwright 1 – Mr Johnson Arkwright 2 – Mrs Hollands

Heywood 1 – Mr Fisher Heywood 2 – Miss Sargeant

Sheldon 1 - Mr White Sheldon 2 – Mr Patrick

The new system will give our Key Stage Directors the flexibility, time and capacity to meet with children and parents within the school day to deal swiftly and effectively with any matters that arise.

We are also planning to adjust the school day to give children longer lessons in the morning, moving from 55 minutes to one hour and having a reduced assembly time in the afternoon 35 minutes to 20 minutes. The changes will not affect the start or end times of the school day.

The situation with ball games remains a challenge. We have been able to make provision for extra clubs at lunchtime but we still need to offer more sporting opportunities and activities. I am meeting with our sports co-ordinator this week and hope we can reach a solution. Please look out for updates on the school website.

Please do not hesitate to contact the school office regarding any of the information in this letter should you wish to discuss it further.

We will be explaining all changes to our children first thing Monday morning so that we can support them all as necessary.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Rachael Baramuszcak.
Headteacher

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