

Orchard's C of E Academy

7th September 2018

Head Teacher: Mrs C Claxton
Deputy Head Teacher: Mr J Davis and Mr J Steeden

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Dates for the Diary

17th and 18th October Parent Consultation Evenings

19th October Last school day before Half Term

29th October Back to school

A message from your new Head Teacher, Mrs Clare Claxton

As the newly appointed Head Teacher of Orchards CE Academy, can I say what a privilege it is to be entrusted to lead the education of your children. This is my third headship and the schools I have led span both primary and secondary academies. In recent years I have spent 4 years at Thomas Clarkson Academy and 2 years working at Nene and Ramnoth Primary Federation.

The Academy is fully staffed and there is not an adult in the building who is not determined to improve the overall quality of teaching. However, moving forward one of our priorities will be the recruitment and retention of teachers. Having talked with a number of parents there have been many positive comments about the school but also comments that communication between school and parents could be better. We intend to start sending out a weekly communication via email and the school's Facebook page outlining news items, upcoming events and future dates for your diary. I am also delighted to have been approached by parents wishing to set up a Parent Teacher Association (PTA). We will out further details about this in a future weekly newsletter.

New Deputy Head Teacher

Joining Mr Davis as Deputy Head Teacher in the school is Mr Jonathan Steeden. Mr Steeden has work within the Diocese of Ely Multi Academy Trust for the past two years since moving up from London with his family. Mr Steeden is a very experienced teacher, with most of his teaching coming in Upper Key Stage 2. Orchards will be his fourth school at which he has been Deputy Head Teacher and he is looking forward to working with you all.

Outside of school, Mr Steeden enjoys spending time with his three children, walking his two Labradors (Rio and Ferdinand) and making regular trips into London to watch West Ham!

School Gates

Many apologies for the issues with the gates on Thursday morning – we will try to ensure that it doesn't happen again.

From now on, the outside gates will be unlocked at 8:00am in the morning. Children who arrive at school after 8:30am must come in through the main entrance.

In the afternoon, the gates will be unlocked again at 2:45pm and locked at 3:30pm. Whilst our expectations will be that all PE lessons on the field will be completed by this time, if any lessons are still taking place on the field when you come through the gates, please give teachers ample space to be able to get the children back into class to get ready for home time. Thank you so much for your cooperation.

Thank you for all the support you provide for our academy!

