

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to take this opportunity to formally introduce myself to you as the new Headteacher of Covingham Park Primary. Although I have chatted to many of you already, I am keen to meet parents and carers, to give you the opportunity to say hello and ask any questions you may have and will be therefore holding a 'Meet the Senior Leadership Team (SLT)' coffee morning at School on 13th March 08:45-10:00, I very much look forward to meeting you, in order to get to know you and your children. The strong partnership between parents and the school is so important in enabling children to achieve success and so I ask for your full support of school policies and for your continued proactive involvement in your child's education.

If you have any concerns, then please do not hesitate to speak to me, you may leave me a message at the office, and I will get back to you as soon as possible, or catch me at the gates.

From my experience of being in education, I know that a successful and happy school depends on all of us working together. Parents make an important contribution to children's achievements at school, and I want to continue to develop the relationship between the school and parents for everyone's benefit.

I would like to thank all the Staff at Covingham, the Blue Kite Trust, Governors and Mrs Crabbe for their support in enabling a smooth transition into my post. I look forward to leading Covingham onwards and upwards, building upon the successes and achievements of the whole school team.

I am relocating back to my home county of Wiltshire, where I grew up and attended primary and secondary schools. I have many happy memories of living in Wiltshire. I met my Husband when he was serving in the Military, so I have the experience of being a Military wife.

I have over 20 years' experience in Early Years and Primary education and have been a Headteacher in 4 different schools – in Wiltshire, Hampshire, and Wales, all with similarities to Covingham Park. I have extensive experience of working with children with a wide range of needs, across the Primary range.

My educational philosophy is simple. I believe every child should be given the opportunity to be the best that they can be, to be an ambitious, capable learner. I have a passion for children being able to access outdoor learning, for getting it right from the Early Years, ensuring every child a reader and in understanding children's barriers to learning and progress.

As Headteacher, my main job is to make sure your child is safe, happy and achieving well whilst they are at school. This first half term has been about getting to know the children, having lunch with them, teaching some classes, and taking reading groups. In the terms ahead I will be spending time with the children in their classes reviewing the teaching and learning experiences they have. I believe children should feel welcome, inspired, safe and supported when they are learning. They will achieve well if they are clear about what is expected of them and the steps they need to get there, however small.

During this first half of the Spring term the children have had some wonderful learning experiences including; 'Bikeability', Young Voices Choir, the Air Ambulance, successful sporting achievements and visiting Minibeasts! This term as had a history focus to the curriculum, so I hope that the children have been able to share with you some facts from their topics.

In the next term up to Easter, we look forward to celebrating Mother Languages Day and many more exciting opportunities and events.

Yours faithfully,



Mrs Joanne Andrews

Thank you for your support with this event, the children had great fun with their penny trails.



The Big Schools' Birdwatch is a brilliant event organised by the RSPB every year in early Spring. The school took part in this science event and over the last 6 weeks our children completed birdwatching activities and wrote down which birds they could see around school.

Congratulations

The boy's football team took on some of the best teams across Wiltshire and became tournament winners. They will now represent Wiltshire in a country wide competition held in Bristol later this academic year. We are all very proud of you – Connor, Leo, Bobby, Sidney, Daniel, Larry, Ollie, Isaac and Raul.

The Young Voices Choir went to Birmingham in January were complimented for their good behaviour and positive attitude.

Dates for parents

WHEN?	WHO?	WHAT?
19/02	Whole School	TD day
20/02	Whole School	Term 4 begins
21/02	Whole School	International Mother Language Day Assemblies at 2:40
01/03	Yr R and Yr 1	Dental Survey
04/03	Yr 5	Easter cracked open at Dorcan Church
05/03	Whole School	Parent's evening
07/03	Whole School	Parent's evening
11/03	Whole School	Science Week – Focus on Time
13/03	Whole School 08:45-10:00	SLT Coffee Morning – all welcome to meet Covingham Park SLT – Mrs Andrews (Head Teacher), Mrs Crabbe (Deputy Head), Miss Smith (SENCO), Miss Gunning (Maths Leader) and Miss Porter (Writing Leader)
13/03	Whole School	Young Carers Action Day – more details to follow
14/03	Yr 6	Educational visit to 'The Loving Rainforest'
15/03	Whole School	Comic Relief – do something funny for money – wear RED for the day - £1 donation for Comic Relief. Wear your Comic Relief Red Nose to School (please name them)
15/03	Whole school (after school)	PTA event – School Disco
20/03	Rocksteady Children	Rocksteady Concerts – more info to follow
21/03	Whole School	Blue Kite Lighthouse Team Coffee Morning – all welcome
27/03	Whole School	PTA event – Bunny Bounce
28/03	Whole School	TD day
29/03- 14/04	Whole School	Easter Holiday
15/04	Whole School	Term 5 begins



Comic Relief 2024 - Friday 15th March. Wear top to toe in **RED** to school. Wear your red nose to school. Do something funny for money - £1 donation to Comic Relief.

In assemblies, we have been thinking about the following themes, you can support this at home through discussions, media, and internet searches. Programs such as 'Newsround' also help children to consider World Events that we may discuss.

New Year's Resolutions, Gratitude, National Martin Luther-King Day, National Winnie the Pooh Day, Holocaust Remembrance Day, and Chinese New Year.

In the months ahead until the Easter break, we will discuss and the start of the Easter Story, Kindness, St David's and St Patrick's days (British values), Mothering Sunday, Ramadan and Comic Relief (a Community driver).

Staffing update:

Welcome back to Mrs Johnson from her maternity leave. Mrs Johnson has joined Beech class and is sharing with Miss Spavin. We also welcome back Miss Smith in March from her maternity leave.

School start time reminder

The children in Key Stage Two have had plenty of time now to get used to their new start time of 8:30. This is now their compulsory start of the school day, and they must be in class on time to get a register attendance mark. Anything after this is marked as late and will be monitored or reported if it does not improve. Letters will be sent home termly, and meetings may be requested regarding poor attendance percentages.

If you have younger children to drop off who start later, please ensure that your Key Stage Two child has gone in first and then wait for the lower school classes to be opened.

The school has several access points for the children to enter their classes on time. The front office is not one of these – the children should go in through their class entrance. The office is a busy time in the morning, and it is not viable or safe for pupils to use this entrance as their way in. Please support the school and your child's learning and progress by making sure they are in on time.

MF DANCE
— THE FUTURE OF DANCE —

NEW YEAR VOUCHER

DANCE YOUR WAY INTO THE
NEW YEAR WITH
TWO WEEKS OF FREE
MF DANCE CLASSES



TO REDEEM THIS OFFER, CLICK THE MF ABOVE, OR VISIT WWW.MFDANCE.CO.UK AND
BOOK ONTO A CLASS IN YOUR LOCAL AREA. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SHOW THIS
VOUCHER TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR ON ARRIVAL.
(THIS OFFER IS ONLY VALID FOR NON-MF DANCE STUDENTS).

MF DANCE
— THE FUTURE OF DANCE —

NEW YEAR NEW HOBBY

UNLEASH YOUR CHILD'S
POTENTIAL!
JOIN US IN A LOCAL CLASS TODAY AND
ELEVATE YOUR CHILD'S CONFIDENCE
THROUGH DANCE



TO REDEEM THIS OFFER, CLICK THE MF ABOVE, OR VISIT WWW.MFDANCE.CO.UK AND
BOOK ONTO A CLASS IN YOUR LOCAL AREA. PLEASE MAKE SURE TO SHOW THIS
VOUCHER TO YOUR INSTRUCTOR ON ARRIVAL.
(THIS OFFER IS ONLY VALID FOR NON-MF DANCE STUDENTS).