

# Parent Meeting | NOTES

**Meeting date | time 25/03/2021 5pm | Meeting location Northlew Primary School TEAMS (virtual due to pandemic and following Leadership changes)**

## 1. INTRODUCTION TO THE CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP - PW

PW – Welcomed everyone. Recapped the journey of Northlew from a standalone primary school, through federation and into the Multi Academy Trust. We are at an exciting new dawn with the appointment of our new CEO, Dan Morrow. We will be working more closely together as one Trust, one family. Parents will be able to meet Dan Morrow to hear about his vision directly at some point in the summer. PW explained how the systems of working have been reviewed to encourage greater collaboration across all the Trust schools. As part of the renewed spirit of collaboration we are discussing how Mrs Janine Cook will be working as Principal of Northlew and Boasley Cross schools.

JC: Mrs Cook has been involved in the MAT since its inception and in education for the last 25 years. She has been working with Mr Whittle and the team of senior leaders across all 6 primary schools for the last 3 years, so working across multiple sites is not new to her. Mrs Cook explained how not having a timetabled teaching commitment will free her to work across both classes at Northlew and have a greater impact over a greater number of children.

## PARENT VOICE/ QUESTIONS:

**A) MY DAUGHTER IS IN YEAR 5. HER FAVOURITE THING IS FOREST SCHOOL. WILL THE WEEKLY SESSIONS CONTINUE?**

Absolutely. Not only will the sessions continue, but Mr Thomas is introducing an exciting initiative called the 'Woodland Passport'. Children can engage with investigations both in and out of school. Forest School session will continue across both classes and JC will be teaching in Class 1 to free up Mr Thomas.

**B) WHO WILL COVER FOR MRS LEE?**

The cover for Class 2 will be either Mr Thomas or Mrs Cook.

**C) I JUST WANT TO SAY THAT YOU LEAD THE SCHOOL IN SUCH A VIBRANT WAY. I WORRY THAT AS MRS COOK IS SUCH A BIG PART OF THE KIDS LIVES, HOW WILL IT AFFECT THEM AND WILL IT BE TOO MUCH FOR YOU MRS COOK?**

I have had to come out of class to address leadership duties, which could on occasion be disruptive for the children. Now I can take control of my calendar which will free me up to spend more time in both classes. In class 1 there will now be up to three adults supporting the children, so the children benefit overall. There will be lots of team teaching and focused learning

planned across the week. The children have already benefited from greater collaboration with Highampton, which will continue. Now we are able to work together for our children, staff and community as a family of schools.

#### D) NORTHLEW IS SUCH A GREAT SCHOOL. WE FEEL THAT IT IS ONE BIG FAMILY THERE.

Mrs Cook agreed and celebrated how the school and community have worked closely over recent years and especially throughout lockdown. There then followed a discussion on the support provided to families regarding devices, food hampers/vouchers and the provision of remote and blended learning. Many thanks to all the teachers and staff at Northlew.

#### E) WILL RESOURCES BE SHARED BETWEEN SCHOOLS?

Yes, resources will be shared and used creatively between schools as we are one team. We will also benefit from strategic sharing of resources such as books, science and other learning equipment centrally. This will also include opportunities for trips and visits making these more affordable to families.

#### F) THANKS AND BEST WISHES TO MRS COOK WERE EXTENDED BY ALL PARENTS

Mrs Cook extended thanks in the other direction, to the parents and families for their support for the school.

PW thanked everyone who attended.