



CLARE COMMUNITY
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter



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PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Fresh Start!

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to be able to introduce myself to you, and tell you a little about my background and ethos. I have taught in East Anglia for twenty years, in schools ranging from small rural primaries of a similar size to Clare to larger urban schools. Although I spent the first few years of my teaching career in the Cambridgeshire fens, I couldn't stay away from West Suffolk and returned to the area in which I was brought up. Since then I have taught in Essex and Suffolk, and also begun my own family; having three primary school-age children myself has certainly made me reflect rigorously on my own values and how I implement these.

As I begin my headship at Clare, my main aim will be to ensure that we have high expectations and excellent practice in every area of school life. I have lots of creative passions, personally, as well as having a great love of reading and learning, and I want our school to continue to encourage and inspire creativity in our pupils as well as give as good a foundation as we can in those vital basic skills such as reading. I also hope to develop the role of our Student Council further in order to encourage our other core

values of community, aspiration, respect and enthusiasm. I want your children to be excited to come to school in the mornings, and I hope that we can work together to achieve this.

This term, I am very pleased to be assisted by Mrs Brown and Miss Illingworth as Interim Deputy Headteachers while we advertise for a permanent postholder. They will receive some leadership time in which to carry out their new roles, but we have ensured that this does not impact on their class responsibilities by using Mr Bareham, who already works in Class 4, and Mr Shinn, a highly experienced Year 6 teacher, to cover this. I am also very pleased to have Mrs Linane working fulltime in Beech this term, to replace Miss Kent.

One of the things that has struck me about our primary school is the strong sense of community spirit and the welcoming attitude of both children and staff. We are entering an exciting phase as part of the new trust with Stour Valley Community School. Already, we have begun a project to spruce up our fantastic buildings and work spaces with the help of the team at SVCS and you will notice that a significant number of new tables, chairs and furniture have been purchased to

replace items that were shabby or damaged. Some very dedicated staff from both schools spent several days during the holidays heaving furniture into skips and scrubbing floors and surfaces to ensure a sparkling start to the term! You might have also spotted our lovely new signage at the front of the school and on the main road- it really feels like a fresh start!

My sincere wish is that we can work in partnership to give our children the best possible education and start in life. I hope to meet as many of you as possible in the coming days and, next Friday, 28th April would like to begin by inviting you to attend our Celebration Assembly at 10.15am and stay afterwards for coffee and biscuits.

Please do come up and introduce yourselves when you see me on the playground. I am going to be working hard to try and remember names and faces!

Yours sincerely,

Rebecca Loader

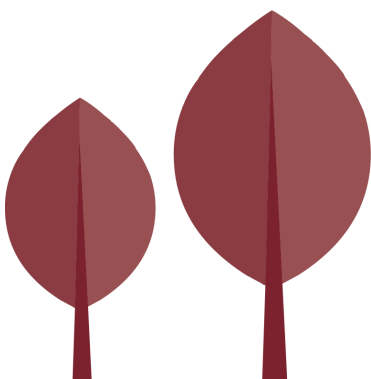
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A **Stour Valley Educational Trust** Academy





New Playground Arrangements

I have been so impressed with how brilliantly the children have adapted to the changes that we have to the playground routine before school, to ensure that there is a calm and orderly start to the school day.

There will be a member of staff on duty in the playground from **8.35 to 8.45am** each morning, and the bell will be rung at **8.45** to signify the beginning of the registration period. **Children will be asked to line up with their class teacher who will then walk them into school.**

At this point we ask you to support us in saying goodbye to your child and handing them over to our care, remaining on the playground while we walk the children to their class.

Teachers will endeavor to

reach the playground a few minutes before the bell is rung, so if there is something quick and urgent, you can pass on any messages. Obviously, if you wish to discuss something at length, please arrange to speak to your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time.

Doors will close at **8.50am** and children must then enter via the office entrance and be signed in and your child will be marked late. Registers officially close at **9am** as previously, and children will be marked **unauthorized late** if they arrive in school after 9am and should enter through the front entrance. *If your child is late, it is your responsibility to ensure that they enter the school safely.*

Whenever possible, I will be on the playground first thing in the

morning and at the end of the day. As normal, I would ask you to initially seek the advice of the class teacher, if you have an issue to discuss, and then Mrs Brown, who is leading Key Stage 1, Miss Illingsworth, Phase Leader for KS2 or myself, if you feel this has not been resolved or you would like further clarification. Do pop into the office to make an appointment or catch me to make a time to talk.

Lastly, we request that you do not let your children use the play equipment at the end of the school day. This presents a number of health and safety issues and detracts from a calm and organized exit from the school property.

Thank you for your support!

Parent Pay

Many thanks for your patience as we set up the new cashless system in school. This should be a much more efficient way of managing our school dinners, and easier for you as parents to track your spending. We really appreciate your patience as we get to grips with how it is run.

Look out for your child's class newsletter published on our website at the beginning of next week. Our school calendar will also be updated on the school website.

Time to Say Goodbye

As well as saying hello to several new members of staff (including me!) we are very sad to say goodbye to Mrs Spencer who has been working with our children for over three years, teaching them PE and running many fantastic sports-related activities. We will all be sorry to say goodbye to Mrs Spencer who we wish the best of luck in pastures anew.

School Grounds

We have noticed that some of our play equipment appears to have been used over the holidays and suspect that we might have had some young visitors entering our grounds and using our facilities.

Not only is this a criminal act, but could be potentially dangerous if children are climbing unsupervised on equipment in a dangerous manner. Please could you keep your eyes open at the weekends and let us know if you see anyone on the school premises.



We have some spaces in our Guitar Club, which is held after school on Thursdays, for Year 2 and upwards.

Your child will learn the basics of guitar-playing with the intent to showcase their music at events during the school year.

If your child is interested in this, please contact the school office where you will be asked to provide your full details.

This is on a first come, first serve basis. If demand out-

strips places, children will be put on a waiting list until a space becomes available.

The cost of this club is £54 for 12 sessions (£4.50 a session). Please do not send any payment at this stage as you will be invoiced accordingly.



Dates for your Diary (up to half-term)

- Weekly swimming for Year 6 commenced on Thursday, 20th April;
- Friday, 28th April, 10.15am, Celebration Assembly, Parents Welcome;
- Thursday, May 4th, 2.45pm Beech Class Assembly;
- Week of May 8th: KS2 SATS week– breakfast provided!
- Tuesday, May 9th– Year 2 and Year 6– Picnic in the Park (details to follow);
- Thursday, May 11th– Year 5 at Clare Country Park; 2.45pm Acorns Class Assembly;
- Thursday, May 18th, 2.45pm, Oak Class Assembly;
- Wednesday, May 24th, Year 6 to visit Holt Hall;
- Thursday, May 25th, 2.45pm, Larch Class Assembly;
- Friday, May 26th, break-up for half-term

**Friday, 28th
April, 10.15am,
Celebration
Assembly**

Please come and join us! There will be tea and biscuits served afterwards.

