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Dear Parents and Carers,

### **Re: Mixed Classes from September**

I hope this letter finds you well. I am writing to inform you about an exciting development in our class structure for the upcoming academic year. From Monday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2025, we will be introducing mixed classes across certain year groups.

This decision has been carefully considered by our Governing Body and our Staffing Team and is based on our commitment to providing the best possible education for all our children. Mixed classes allow us to be flexible in our teaching and to group children in a way that supports both their academic progress and their personal development.

It also gives us the capacity to future proof the school, in that we can grow in all year groups. The falling birth rate has impacted on the number of children in the school and we hope the new building taking place will bring more children into the village. We do appreciate that we are currently the only local school with single year groups and in time as new children join the school, we will aim to return to this.

The classes will be:

Early Years EYFS with Nursery and Reception Mrs Marsh

Year 1 and 2 Mrs Jones (Y2 children based on birth date)

Year 2 and 3 Mrs Blessed and Mrs Smith

Year 4 and 5 Mrs Savory (Deputy Headteacher September 2025)

Year 6 Mrs White

Mrs Dyson is moving on in August to explore a different direction in her career and Miss Green is taking time to travel. We wish to take this opportunity to thank them both for their time with our school and wish them well as they leave our school community.

## Why mixed classes?

Mixed classes offer a number of educational benefits, including:

- **Exceptional Learning:** Teachers can group children by ability or interest, allowing for more personalised learning and targeted support.
- **Take Care of ourselves, Social Development:** Children have the opportunity to work with a wider range of peers, building confidence, cooperation, and friendships across year groups.
- **Take Care of each other, Leadership Opportunities:** Older children often enjoy helping younger classmates, which fosters responsibility and reinforces their own learning.

## What does this mean for your child?

Your child will still follow the appropriate curriculum for their year group, taught by our dedicated and experienced staff. Lessons will be carefully planned to ensure every child is challenged and supported in their learning. Our teaching team have collectively been planning to meet the needs of all children, including which quality texts that each class will learn from; through to the artists they will study. We will continue to monitor progress closely and keep you informed throughout the year.

Your child will still be with their year group for everything social, playtimes and lunchtimes. School visits and residential visits will still be as a year group with the added benefit of more children, as two or even three year groups will join for school visits and residential visits so the cost can be supported.

We understand that any change can raise questions, and we are here to support both you and your child as we make this transition. If you would like to discuss this in more detail, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will arrange a meeting with you, to answer any questions.

The early transition we have done for some years now, will start on the 7<sup>th</sup> July and we will focus this time in developing the bonds for the class with each other and their teaching teams.

We are confident that this change will bring positive outcomes for all children and strengthen our school community even further. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kindest regards,

**Jane Cappleman-Jackson and Jill Fairbank**

**Headteacher and Chair of Governors**