



THE ROOKERIES CARLETON

J, I & N SCHOOL

The Rookeries Carleton J, I & N School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all keeping safe and well.

It is the time of year when we start to think about classes and staffing for next year, so I just wanted to give you an update. Due to increased numbers of children in our Reception and Key Stage 1 classes, we now have approximately 75 pupils going into Years 3 and 4. This means that for the first time we are having a mixed age class in Lower Key Stage 2 – Year 3/4. For the second year running we will also have a mixed year 1/2 class, this is to cater for the growing number of children attending our school.

One of the questions often asked by parents and carers is *'will my child be held back if he/she is placed in a mixed age, or split year group/class?'* Our answer is no. The ways in which teaching and learning are organised in primary schools means that teaching is tailored to meet the needs and current achievement levels of individual pupils. The Rookeries staff are experienced at planning and delivering work to match the needs of all learners. The three Year 3 and 4 teachers will work closely together to ensure consistency of practice and pupil progress. There is absolutely no evidence to suggest that being in a mixed age class has any detrimental effect whatsoever on the education of children in the class.

In general terms it is likely to be good for children to experience classes with different classmates so that their circle of friends and acquaintances can be extended beyond the traditional age boundaries. Where new classes are formed, opportunities are created beyond the standard curriculum for pupils to maintain contact with friends who have been allocated to other classes such as lunchtimes, playtimes, special activities, trips and school performances.

I hope this addresses some of the questions you may have. All the staff at The Rookeries are looking forward to the next chapter in our school development.

Yours sincerely

Miss N Ellwand
Head of School