

**Cressex Site
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High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP12 3NE
Tel: 01494 532621**



**Downley Site
Faulkner Way
High Wycombe
Buckinghamshire
HP13 5HB
Tel: 01494 525728**

**Chair of Governors: Bridget Ledson
Headteacher: Mr Bradley Taylor**

Friday 12th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

Class fund

As we approach the first half term break of the year, just a reminder that we look forward to seeing you next week when you are invited in to meet with your child's class teacher and look at how s/he is settling in and discuss the Pupil Provision Plan for this term.

You will be aware from the media and if you have children in other schools, that budgets are tight and it seems there is never enough money to go around. There are consumable resources used in every class which we would like you to contribute to, at a rate of £6 per half term. We ask you to do this please through your parentmail account, under the heading stating 'make a donation' and then selecting the appropriate section and adding the amount desired. Some parents have kindly offered more in the past, and this is possible through this portal. You may write a cheque instead if you wish, but we ask that you do not send cash into school. Our grateful thanks for your support with this cost.

Health and Therapy Provision

Rose Richardson, our school nurse, left the school at the end of last year, and has been replaced by two nurses who job share the role. Their names are Clare Lamb and Helen Watts, and have already made a great start getting to know children and families over this term.

We have an additional Occupational Therapist joining our team on a Friday – Kiran Kalra is working with Rainbow children as Rosie Holliday is now supporting Woodland department alongside the NHS OT provision in the shape of Anya Boreland who joins us in place of Sharon Howard. Geri Pinnock continues to support the rest of the school, along with Connie Nxumalo who is another new member of the team.

There are no changes to those from the physio team that support us - Nayomi Lad, Carole Earl and Annette McDonnell are continuing to work in school. However we have a new therapies assistant – Nicky Knight – who supports this and the OT team. Nicky comes from the NHS, although we also have Susan Milton and Pippa Bowden who support OT needs across the school too.

Towards the end of last year, I reported in the newsletter that Kate Hopcraft (senior speech therapist) was leaving us following a number of years of service as a speech therapist. Right at the end of the term both Mariska Vermeer and Klaudia Minkus also resigned, both due to quite

separate personal circumstances. They both hail from Canada and had family issues which meant they needed to leave quite suddenly to resolve them. There is a national shortage of speech therapists and our recruitment to all 3 of these posts has been highly challenging. We are currently out to advert again to recruit to the vacant positions, and I am sorry to say this has left some short term gaps in what we need to provide. Caroline Dixon, working for the NHS, continues to work with Woodland department (there are no changes affecting this department), but she also now oversees Gemstone department on the Downley site. Helen Sutherland is a new therapist and she will fulfil a similar role to Caroline overseeing provision on the Cressex site from half term onwards. Both are supported by Michelle Eggett, our speech therapy assistant across both sites. We have also secured some additional support from Becca Scott who is currently overseeing assessments of new pupils in Little Wings, but will go on to support Rainbow department too in the coming weeks. I do apologise that we don't have the breadth of speech therapy provision that we require at present, but we are actively recruiting to the vacant roles and will inform you as soon as we fill the positions.

As ever, my thanks for your support of the school.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'B Taylor', written in a cursive style.

Bradley Taylor

HEADTEACHER