

3rd January 2017

Dear Pupils and Parents,

Happy New Year! It is with great pleasure that I write this letter to you, having been appointed to the role of Interim Head Teacher at St Margaret's CofE Primary School.

I wanted to take this opportunity to briefly introduce myself to you and to express my enthusiasm for the exciting times ahead. My name is David Huntingford and I join you from St. Luke's CEVA Primary School, an outstanding church school within the Diocese of Chelmsford located in Canning Town, Newham. I have had six years of school leadership experience at various levels - including Interim Headteacher. I am originally from Chingford, Waltham Forest and excited to be returning to Barking and Dagenham, the authority in which I began my teaching career. Along with Barking and Dagenham and Newham, I have experience of teaching in Redbridge along with volunteer teaching in Ghana and Kazakhstan. My qualifications come from the University of Wales Swansea, University of Exeter and University of Alberta, Canada. I am married and have two lovely children, aged six and one, so I more than understand the challenges and anxieties raising children and schooling can bring! I am a member of my local church, hence developing the Christian ethos of the school is of particular importance to me.

It goes without saying that I want to build on the good work that has been started at St. Margaret's, which has been led so well by Mrs Rider, whom I thank and wish every success at her new school. My team and I will continue to be fully focussed on teaching and learning with a relentless drive to raise standards for all pupils. The energy and enthusiasm the staff team demonstrate is something I have already noticed and I am thankful for how welcome the team have made me during my visit days.

It is also my pleasure to welcome Ms Deborah Haworth, who joins us from St. Mary's School, within the Genesis Trust. Mrs Haworth is taking up the role of Interim Head of School. We also welcome Miss Natalie Tomkins who is teaching in Year Two, Mrs Kaye Ryan who is teaching in Year Six and Miss Laura Foster who joins us from within the Genesis Trust and will be teaching in Year Four. Please do make them feel welcome.

Members of my Senior Leadership Team and I will be visible in the playground before and after school so please come and introduce yourselves. I am passionate about working in partnership with parents so do let us know what we are doing well along with any concerns you may have. I also plan to organise coffee mornings and other drop-ins to provide you with an opportunity to meet the Senior Leadership Team. Details will appear in the school newsletter.

I very much look forward to getting to know you all and being part of your exciting school.

Yours faithfully,

Mr. David Huntingford
Interim Headteacher