



Orchard Manor School News

# OMS Bulletin

## School Updates and Communications

17 June 2022



Dear Parents and Carers

*We delight in the beauty of the butterfly, but rarely admit the changes it has gone through to achieve that beauty. Maya Angelou - American poet and civil rights activist.*

I have been wandering around the school admiring the horticultural skills on show... I have particularly loved seeing how the horticultural area continues to grow and flourish. It seems like a small miracle that it has blossomed in the way that it has. Many classes have taken on small plots and are working hard at turning these into fantastic spaces. I was particularly impressed with the small edible garden that is being cared for by a few pupils from year 11 by the outdoor dining areas. The radishes are really quite exceptional! The raised beds outside of Post 16 are lovely too. The results from our annual OMS in Bloom should be announced soon.



### Deputy Headteachers

We are pleased to announce that Bryan Webster and Adele Thomas have both been appointed to the position of Deputy Head Teacher— Adele on Upper Campus and Bryan on Lower Campus. We have chosen to have two Deputy Heads due to the leadership capacity needed across the whole campus. I am sure that you will join me in congratulating them both, and we are all looking forward to working with them next term in their new roles.

### Transitions

So we begin to move into that part of the year where we start to get ready for the next year. We say goodbye to some of our pupils and prepare them carefully- to transition onto the next team who will continue to nurture them and help them develop into the young people we are so proud of. We all

help and support in this process from whatever role that we have from across the school.

Early next week, you will be contacted by a member of staff who will advise you on which classes students will be moving to. We will then begin to tell students and prepare them for the transition. Staff have already begun to meet students and begin to form relationships, this will continue with classes gradually spending more time with their new classes until they are fulltime with their new teacher wherever possible. This is so that they will be used to the change and will feel more prepared for September. Existing staff will work with new teachers to complete a careful handover.

Curriculum time will focus on building relationships, managing change and will be chance for teachers to begin to assess their new classes. Special attention will be given to pupils in year 7 who will be moving into classes based on the upper campus. We do work really hard to make sure that students are with the right combination of peers but we appreciate that it's not always possible to get the perfect fit.

We know that for some people and pupils that transitions are never easy and can cause anxiety. We have tried to minimise this wherever possible. Please hold onto the knowledge that the investment in time and building relationships now will pay dividends next year. If you have any questions then please don't hesitate to contact your child's existing class teachers.

### Reports & parents meetings

School reports will soon be going out for every child and an optional parents meeting will follow if you wish to discuss any aspect of your child's progress and report. We have had feedback from some parents that they would like an opportunity to visit the school while others prefer the convenience of virtual meetings. We are working on a way where we can offer both. We will send you details two weeks before of how to book your timeslot.

### Date timeline of transitions

W/b 20.06.22 information on class changes

W/b 04.07.22 A staggered transitions to new classrooms begins

W/b 11.07.22 Pupils will follow new curriculum timetable where appropriate

Nicola Jones.