



St John with St Michael CE Primary School



September 2021

Mr Rooney Friday 25th June 2021

Message from your new Headteacher:

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to have been appointed the new Headteacher at St John with St Michael CE Primary School. I feel extremely honoured and privileged to have been chosen to continue to build upon the progress the school has already made under the leadership of Mr Toddington and Mrs Camps, and I am extremely excited to bring my experience and knowledge to the school to take it forward on its journey. I am very much aware of the responsibility that my staff and I have, in ensuring that the highest standard of teaching and learning is achieved. We have a hugely committed team and wonderful children, which of course, is a great place for any new head to start!

I believe that the needs of the children are paramount in the life of and decision making within a school. I strongly believe in providing our children with exciting, creative and meaningful learning experiences, which build their enthusiasm for learning and help them to grow and develop positively in a variety of ways, so that every single child reaches their full potential. I think it is crucial to involve the children and their families as partners in their education. I am also keen on building a whole school community, which thrives on mutual respect and values positive relationships.

As key educators in your children's lives, I feel that it is important that you have a voice and that as a school, we are approachable and allocate time to listen to your concerns, worries or thoughts. In the near future, when it is safe to do so, I will be inviting parents in for an informal coffee morning. This will be an opportunity to meet other parents and chat to me and other members of staff over a cup of coffee and a slice of cake.



You can be assured that as Headteacher, I will strive to create the best learning experiences for your child/children, whilst they are members of our school family. Please do come up and introduce yourselves outside school – I will attempt to be in the school playground before and after school each day. I look forward to meeting more of you in September. Thank you so much for your continued support.

Classes September 2021:

I know you will be keen to know our staffing structure for September and to find out who your child's class teacher will be.

Classes	Class Teacher	Teacher Assistant
Nursery/ Reception (Class 1)	Mrs Camps	Mrs O'Leary
Year 1/2 (Class 2)	Mrs Oliver	Miss Dalton
Year 3/4 (Class 3)	Mrs Entwistle	Miss Howard
Year 5/6 (Class 4)	Miss Hall	Mrs Driver



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Wedding/Name:

Now just to confuse you all, I know you are all expecting Mr Shaw. However, in July, all being well, I will be getting married to my partner.

After a lot of thought, we have taken the decision to take my mother's family name. Therefore, when we return in September, my name will be Mr Rooney.

Curriculum Development:

Reading:

As you are all aware, reading is one of the most important skills that we can teach our children. It is the key to unlocking the wider curriculum. In order to ensure rapid improvement in reading across the school, Mrs Camps and I have decided to introduce the **Read Write Inc** Phonics Scheme from September. Mrs Camps will be leading the preparations for this when she returns from her maternity leave. In order to implement this approach successfully, all class-based staff will receive training to provide them with the skills and knowledge they need to deliver this teaching effectively. We have also invested a great deal in the children's reading books. It is important that you support us in developing your child's reading and as such, I encourage you to read for at least 10 minutes a day with your child, especially during the summer holidays.

Ethos & Values:

As a distinctly Christian school, the teaching of Christian values and the Christian ethos of our school is something that makes us special and unique within our community. Over the next few weeks, I would like to consult with our school community in order to refresh and renew our vision, values and ethos. This will be done in the form of a survey that will ask what values you feel reflect our school. Your contribution will be appreciated and could leave a permanent mark on the future of our school.

Uniform:

I have been informed that a number of parents have asked if our uniform will change now that we are joining the **Forward As One** Multi Academy Trust. At this moment in time, we will not change our uniform, as I am aware that families may have already spent money on uniform in preparation for September. However, next year, I will consult with our school stakeholders including parents, staff, governors and pupils in order to look at how we can refresh our uniform in preparation for September 2022.

Breakfast/Afterschool Club:

There are still places available for breakfast and afterschool club provision for September 2021. Please speak to Mrs Earnshaw in the office if you are interested in taking up a place in our wrap around care clubs.

Final Note:

Finally, if anyone would like to contact me with any questions or suggestions before September, please feel free to do so: RooneyS@sjm.fa1.uk

If I do not meet you before, I look forward to meeting you in September and I wish you all a fantastic summer! Fingers crossed it will start with England winning the European Championships!

Yours sincerely,

S. Rooney

Mr Rooney