



Old Catton Church of England Junior School

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Executive Headteacher: A. D. Best-White

Executive Deputies: N. Pellatt and K. Connelly

Head of School: E. Emrick



12 April 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

I want to take this opportunity, as we start the Summer Term, to officially introduce myself to you as your new Head of School.

Since starting my teaching career at Old Catton Junior School in 2013, I have always felt so at home in our school, teaching the children that I do and interacting with you as families and the local community. Old Catton Junior School, its ethos, staff, families and children is at the heart of all I do and I feel incredibly honoured to be able to say that I am now the Head of a school that I feel so passionately about.

I feel strongly that the team working at Old Catton to drive the school forward are the best I could ask for. All staff are fully committed to making Old Catton Junior School the greatest that it can be and I know that I have their full support in providing your children with the best education and experiences possible. When I walk down the corridors and step into classrooms I see children that are happy, safe and eager to learn and this combination is an unstoppable one.

While we are an educational institution, education doesn't just take place with learning objectives and pen to paper. For me, and for all staff at Old Catton, education is about so much more: cross-curricular experiences, outdoor activities, emotional wellbeing and opportunities to just socialise with one another, have fun and be children! While this last year and the restrictions that have been in place because of it, has meant that this has not always been possible I, like all of you, have everything crossed that this will change soon. While we wait for this day, be safe in the knowledge that we are doing all we can in school, within the constraints we have in place, to provide as varied an education as we can.

I am fully committed to being the best leader possible of a school and community I hold close to my heart and in order to do so, I also need the help of all of you. I can only be the best I can be, and move the school forward in a positive way, when I know what works well and what needs a bit of extra attention. You, as parents and carers, must have faith that the school is doing all it can for your children and I would like to take this opportunity to express that my staff and I always welcome a collaborative approach to the teaching of your children. Every day that we step through the school front door, we have the education, safety and wellbeing of your children at the forefront of our minds and that everything we do, we do with their best interests as our priority.

If the last year has taught us anything, being kind, focussing on the whole person and working together must be our main priority. Every child is an individual, with their own story, likes and dislikes and way of learning and while our aim is to ensure that every decision we make benefits every child, there will be times when difficult decisions need to be made that provide a best way forward for our whole school community. We kindly ask that you work with us during these times and know that we do all we can to benefit all of our school community and cater to the needs of the individual in the best way we can.

This new term brings us all to an exciting new start and I can't wait to begin my new role. I thank you in advance for your continued support in making Old Catton Junior School the brilliant school that it is and for helping us to continue to strive to make it better.

Kindest regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Miss Emily Emrick', with a stylized, cursive script.

Miss Emily Emrick
Head of School
Old Catton Junior School