



# Ab Kettleby Primary School



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Working in partnership: Ab Kettleby and Somerby Primary Schools

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## Summer Term Round Up!

Dear parents and carers,

I have to pinch myself from time to time when I think I have been Head at Ab Kettleby now for a whole academic year. We have achieved so much as a team, in one year, that I am so incredibly proud of, and I am excited to see the school continue to move forward as we move into the new academic year.

We have improved our social media presence and have been able to share with the wider community the amazing opportunities we offer our children. Alongside this, we have been able to attract 7 new families to our small but mighty school as well as welcoming many children from our playgroup and our existing families for our Autumn new starters. Miss Bray and Mrs Gent have carried out home visits and have met our new starters in their own homes and we are starting to build the invaluable relationship needed to help the transition to school go smoothly for children and parents! We can't wait to get to know our new families in the new academic year.

### Class Names

As you know, we ran a poll in the Spring Term to rename our classes as from the new autumn term. Thank you to all who contributed! A bee theme was certainly the favorite and therefore we have decided to call the classes the following:

- Class 1 - Bumble Bee
- Class 2 - Honey Bee
- Class 3 - The Hive

### Transition Y6

We are preparing to say a fond farewell to our amazing Year 6 team as they move onto the next stage of their life in secondary school. They are a fantastic group of individuals who leave with strong values and I have no doubt they will be a credit to their new school and make us all proud.

I know there will be some tears shed as we wave our Year 6 team off, but I hope each and every one of them keeps in touch and let us know how they are getting on!

We still have our Leavers' Assembly on the last day of term to look forward to and this will give us all a chance to reflect on their time with us and wave them off in style.



## Staff Goodbyes

We also say goodbye to a number of our staff who have been an integral part of our small but mighty team this year.

- Mrs Cole Wallace, kindly stepped in as a full-time supply teacher in October for Class 3 and has now secured a permanent contract in a school nearer to her home.
- Mr Buckland, stepped into Class 2 at Christmas, again on a temporary contract. Mr Buckland has now secured a permanent contract in a school in Oundle.
- Mrs Hadingham is moving from her part-time Teacher Assistant role to a full-time role as Teacher Assistant at Brownlow Primary School.

I wish them all luck as they move onto their next venture and my heartfelt thanks go to all of them for the hard work and support they have given to children at AB Kettleby this year.

- Mrs Fryer, of course, also leaves us to start her hectic life as a busy mummy of 3! Our best wishes go with her for the safe arrival of her newest family member.

## Staffing Structure 2022/23

### The Hive: Year 4,5,6

I am delighted to be welcoming our new Lead Teacher, who is getting married in July, Miss Harriet Quail who will soon be Mrs Morris, and she will lead Class 3/The Hive. Mrs Morris will be supported by Mrs Ferris, full time Teacher Assistant, and a new student teacher, Miss Priestley who will be with us all year, except for 6 weeks in the Spring term.

We also will be welcoming Mrs Lee who is returning from her maternity leave. Mrs Lee was a class teacher at Somerby but will return to Ab Kettleby after October half term to cover The Hive for a day and a half per week, to allow Mrs Morris time out of class for management and planning time.

### Honey Bee: Year 2,3

We are equally delighted to be welcoming Mr Dash, who will be our full-time teacher in Class 2/Honey Bee, alongside Miss Presbury who will support him as Teacher Assistant.

### Bumble Bee: EYFS and Year 1

Miss Bray and Mrs Gent will continue to teach our youngest children in Class 1/Bumble Bee.

Mrs Triggs will continue to cover Bumble Bee and Honey Bee for half a day per week so teachers can have their planning time. She will then cover The Hive management time from September to October, until Mrs Lee returns.

Our new teachers will be in school on Monday 4<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> July to meet their new class. During this time, teachers who are leaving will have quality time with our new teachers to pass all relevant information over to ensure a smooth transition for our children.

At 3.15pm on Monday and Tuesday parents will have the chance to meet Miss Quail (Mrs Morris to be!) and Mr Dash and come and say hello. I am sure you will all make our two newest recruits very welcome!

## SENCO

Donna Chapman, who is currently the SENCO at The Grove Primary School, will be covering Mrs Fryer's SENCO role at Ab Kettleby in her absence. Mrs Chapman has had 8 years teaching experience and has previously been the head of a SEN unit. She has a Masters in Special Needs and Inclusion and has completed her SENCO Award Qualification. We are very lucky to have her joining our team, one day a week, to support children with Special Educational Needs.

### Music Provision Autumn Y4,5,6

I have managed to secure music provision for the Autumn Term for Children in The Hive (Class 3!). For one afternoon per week, children in The Hive will receive tuition of either a Ukulele or a Guitar (to be confirmed), from September to December. Following this, parents will be given the opportunity to pay separately for small group or 1:1 tuition if your child wishes to develop the skill of playing the instrument further. The plan is that each Autumn term a new instrument will be introduced, giving children the opportunity to enjoy 3 different instruments over the time they are in The Hive. Further details of paid tuition will follow in the Autumn term.

### FOAKS

I continually am in awe at the proactiveness of our FOAKS team and the support all parents give to FOAKS to enable extra money to be raised for our school. I was delighted at the turn out of the Summer Fair, despite the miserable weather! The summer fair has been a vision of FOAKS since before Christmas: so much organisation and preparation is involved, and our parents do this voluntarily as well as juggling homelife and jobs!

This money really does make such a difference to us as a school, and the current focus to raise funds for an outdoor learning area is so exciting. My heartfelt thanks go to all those who have contributed over the year, however small: it all adds up.

### Behaviour and Uniform Policy

Our priority, in the new academic year, is to get routines and expectations established as quickly as possible to help all children settle after the summer break and feel secure. We are looking forward to building on our exemplary behaviour and attitudes. Please take time to familiarize yourselves with our behaviour policy and uniform expectations, which can be found on our website. In the new year, children can come to school in their PE kits on PE days as usual, and as this will form children's uniform one day per week, the expectations to wear the correct PE uniform is just as important. Please label all belongings to avoid it being lost.

### Parent Feedback

Feedback continues to be positive via our Parent Forum meetings. I am always willing to take ideas, suggestions and solutions to help improve the provision we can offer our children. Please don't wait until these meetings - if you have an idea - please do share!

### Autumn Dates 2022

We are currently putting together dates for the new academic year and we will send these out in good time at the start of the Autumn Term.

### The Queen's Jubilee 2022

What a fantastic way to end a term, celebrating 70 years of our Queen, something none of us are likely to witness again in our lives. Watching our children come together as a Choir in June at the park, singing their hearts out to a song created by children from our Trust was certainly a highlight for me. We are planning to start an Ab Kettleby Choir in the new academic year and plans to join the Trust Choir again are in discussions.

With only a few days of the term left, I wish you all a super summer break and I hope the sun shines. Our first day of the new academic year is Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> August - we can't wait to see you all then with news from your summer!

Thank you for your continued support with our small but mighty school!

Andrea Brown  
Headteacher