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13.09.16

Dear Parents and Carers of children in Jungle Class,

I am aware that there has been a number of concerns regarding the staffing in Jungle Class so am writing to update you on the current situation.

Ms Blood is being seconded to Saltdean Primary School this year which is promotion regarding the much larger setting. From September to October Ms Blood will be at Saltdean every Friday. She will continue her management responsibilities at Laughton in her role as Head of School/ deputy by being out of class on Monday afternoons and all day Thursday. The Monday session is run by our Premier Sport who is a qualified teacher. Therefore all PE lessons will be taken by a specialist coach. We have also bought into the Health Education programme run by Premier Sport which is a government initiative to improve education in health and well being. The Health Education session, which also fits in with our science curriculum, will be before or after the PE lesson on Mondays.

On Thursdays the class have PE led by Premier Sport and the other lessons are taken by Mrs Rieman and Mrs Greed. The objectives for these lessons are set and monitored by Ms Blood. Mrs Wells one of our regular supply staff take the class on Fridays and Ms Blood plans the objectives and monitors the learning. The children have all been taught by Mrs Wells across other years and she knows them well. All these staff use the school planning system to ensure continuity of lessons and objectives taught.

We didn't have any applicants when we advertised the post for KS2 teacher in the summer term and have readvertised it with a higher salary bracket. I am showing teachers around the school this week and next. The closing date for applications is 12noon Thursday 22nd September and we will be interviewing on Tuesday 27th September. If we have a suitable candidate for the post then we will appoint asap. If we do not find a suitable candidate then the post will be readvertised and MS Blood will remain at Laughton until Christmas. I am hopeful with the interest we have had from the advert that we will be able to appoint.

I have spoken to the children today about the current situation so that they know and have said that Ms Blood will be in school Monday to Thursday so they can go and see her if they have any issues during this time.

I will be working at Firlie on Monday afternoons and all day Wednesdays. There are other times when staff are not in school due to meetings and training sessions. The priority of these is always considered as to how they will benefit our school.

In considering the staffing for this year we have looked at their strengths and have them leading in areas of expertise. The timetable shows which lessons are on which days but this is subject to changes depending on what is happening during the week as sometimes other opportunities arise.

I will keep you informed of staffing after the interview process. If we do appoint from Term 2 then the Jungle class teacher will be in class 4.5 days a week as all teachers are entitled to 10% Planning Preparation and

Assessment time. They may have some time out of class to lead their subject area (this is an expectation of all teachers to lead a subject and in such a small school they have more than 1 subject to lead).

The staffing in Jungle Class has been carefully planned and we hope the children benefit in having teachers teach their specialism. It is good experience for them to work with different staff as it prepares them for the next stage of their education, however I am aware that not all parents share this view and would prefer their child to have one teacher.

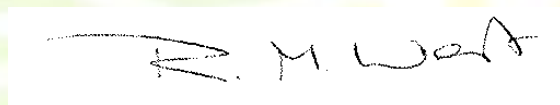
It is really important for us to know if your child is not happy at school so please make an appointment to see Ms Blood or myself to discuss any issues.

Jungle Term 1 timetable – (This is flexible)

	Before break	Assembly	Break	After break	Lunch	Afternoon
Monday	Maths and spelling			Writing and Reading		PE Health Education
Tuesday	Maths and spelling			Writing and Reading		Topic- including other subjects
Wednesday	Maths and spelling			Writing and Reading		Topic- including other subjects
Thursday	PE Spelling / Reading			Maths		RE/ Science
Friday	Fiction Friday and Writing			Maths		Spanish Golden Time

I hope this information makes the current situation a bit clearer to you. We are committed to ensuring your child has a successful education at Laughton and thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Rachel West

Headteacher