

Oakmeadow CE Primary School Longmeadow Bayston Hill Shrewsbury Shropshire SY3 ONU

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Executive Head teacher: Mrs C Whelan BA (Hons) QTS NPQH Pg Cert

Head of School: Mrs S Hill BA (hons) QTS PG Cert

11th October 2021

Dear Homes

As we now move through our next academic year, I'd like to take a moment to write a personal letter to you.

Since 2013 Oakmeadow has been a key part in my life. Many professions are certainly more than a 'job' and school leadership is no exception.

When I began at Oakmeadow there were many things to do. The school had a difficult and emotional few years amalgamating from 2009 onwards and the result of this meant some very significant financial strains. On my arrival it was clear changes were needed to move forward and challenges ahead. The staff in our Oakmeadow family have taken that challenge. Working tirelessly over the last 8 years to continue the upwards journey, openly engaging in the developments and we are proud of the provision we offer at Oakmeadow. We do make mistakes. However, with constant reflection, continual development and a passion, commitment and drive to be our best we hope you at home feel your child belongs to a school that gives its best.

In 2020 we joined the family of Marches Academy Trust. We saw this as an opportunity to collaborate more effectively, work with the secondaries, developing our wider links, and therefore strengthening our team. It's been amazing to join in with sporting events over the last 2 years with the other primaries and network with the skilled staff to continual our professional development. Many of our staff have been able to have experiences we otherwise wouldn't have been able to offer, make new connections and be involved with national projects.

As you already know in order to support the Trust growth and help develop all our schools my role changed in September 2020 to part time Executive Director of Education, supporting all our schools to continue their journeys. This role will soon become full time.



















With this role I will **stay very firmly part of Oakmeadow**, but in the background quality assuring the provision, supporting the financial stability of the school and working with the leadership team to continue the school's growth.

Mrs Hill has been working closely with me as Head of School for over 18 months now and has my confidence to take Oakmeadow on to its next journey. The schools aspiring vision will continue to drive the work of leadership and this will be fully supported by the Trust.

I have felt privileged over 2013-2021 to be Headteacher at Oakmeadow. The community, the staff and the children are truly part of my heart.

So, as I go forward and explain my new role to our children, I wanted to Thank you at home for your support over my time as Headteacher. Thank you for trusting us with your children daily, it is a family at Oakmeadow, and I will look forward to continuing to be a part of this in my Trust role.

Mrs Hill will now continue her role as Head of School alongside the strong team supporting her. This will mean she will lead the strategic direction of the school and secure the daily operational management of Oakmeadow. I know the school is supported by a community of homes who are truly committed to working with us as a team and I'm excited about its continual growth.

I wanted to Thank the Oak community. I've loved being Head. - YouTube

Thank you for your continuing support.

Kind Regards

Carla Whelan Executive Headteacher















Twitter: @oakmeadow Nursery: @Ladybirdsoak