



Brockley Primary School

9th January 2015

New Head teacher Welcome Message

Dear Parent/Carer,

I write to introduce myself as the new Head teacher of Brockley Primary School. I am extremely delighted to have started in post and consider it a privilege to have been appointed. I am committed to ensuring that your children get the best start in life. As the mother of a 16 year old daughter, I appreciate the patience needed to nurture the minds of young children. I have spent 18 years working in education in a wide range of teaching and management roles across Manchester and Derbyshire. In that time I have taught in every year group from Nursery through to Year 6 and hope to continue using my teaching experience here. Before my appointment here at Brockley I was Head teacher at Parwich Primary School for seven years.

Since my appointment in July I have visited the school on several occasions and have been very impressed by the warm and friendly atmosphere received from children and staff alike. The previous Executive Head teacher, Sally Ann Seward has done a fantastic job of which I am sure everyone associated with Brockley is proud. I feel honoured to be entrusted with continuing the role of leading Brockley and continuing this great work. I look forward to working in partnership with the children, staff, governors and yourselves as the parent community, to continue to develop Brockley as an exciting, happy place of learning for all children and as a successful school.

Please be assured that I am committed to working tirelessly to make sure the school continues to flourish and maintains its caring, welcoming, family ethos. I have several ideas about how we can jointly make sure our school continues to strive towards improving. This will be building on the solid foundations already in place so please do not expect to see major changes in the short term. For me the needs of the children are the most important in a school. I strongly believe in creating conditions that allow children to be excited about learning and promote creative and meaningful learning experiences; this in turn will develop an enthusiasm for learning and help children to grow and develop positively to the best of their ability in a variety of ways. I think it is crucial that we involve the children and their families as partners in children's education. I am also keen to make sure we unite parents and teachers as a whole school community - which thrive on mutual respect, shared values and a positive working relationship.

However, there will be some challenges ahead, not least as the government continues to change what is expected of schools, the introduction of the new National Curriculum in 2014 and moving to Assessing without Levels during 2015. Our success will require us all to work together to make sure we can jointly meet the needs of our growing and diverse community. I hope you as parents will join staff and get involved in the daily school life where possible. Only by working together can we make sure your children fully enjoy school life and develop the foundational skills and knowledge they need to be successful.

During the first half-term I aim to spend a significant amount of time getting to know the children; spending time with them when they are learning, finding out about their views of school and what their aspirations are. Similarly I will be available at the school gates and look forward to meeting you, so please do come along and introduce yourself if you haven't already. I should also mention how very grateful I am to the time parents who took out of their busy day to join me at Thursday's Coffee Morning; your views about the school have been taken on board and will help shape school policy decisions as we move forward.

I look forward to working with you in the coming months, terms and years, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any comments, queries or concerns, my door is always open. If you would like to contact me at any time my direct email address is:

caroline.rodgers@brockley.derbyshire.sch.uk

Yours sincerely,
Caroline Rodgers