



St Osyth C of E Primary School

A member of the Diocese of Chelmsford Vine Schools Trust
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Friday 15th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

Firstly, may I wish you all a wonderful Christmas break.

My name is Charlotte Little and I am the Chair of the School Governance Board (Governors) for St Osyth Church of England Primary School. The School Governance Board (SGB) provides strategic support to, and accountability of, school leaders. I write to you today about two matters.

Firstly, it is a reflection of our school's high-quality team of leaders and staff that one of them has been 'head-hunted' to support a school in Colchester, for a fixed period of time. For, at least initially, the Spring term Mrs Levett will be the Acting Headteacher of Montgomery Infant School and Nursery. This is a great opportunity for Mrs Levett to develop even greater leadership experience, knowledge and skills than she has now – and then to bring those back to St Osyth to benefit the children here. I am certain that Mrs Levett will be a wonderful Acting Headteacher. I am equally certain that the team at St Osyth will continue to provide your children with great care and a great education, during the time when Mrs Levett will not be on site.

I am pleased that we have been able to recruit a senior leader, Mr Malcolm Wainford, to be our Acting Deputy Headteacher, during Mrs Levett's secondment to Montgomery Infants School and Nursery. Mr Wainford is a senior leader at St Andrew's Church of England School, Weeley. He has taught in primary and secondary schools and is St Andrew's SENDCo. In addition to working closely with our other senior leaders, Mr Carter-Tufnell and Mrs Stock, Mr Wainford will be teaching Mrs Levett's Year 6 English class and Year 6 mathematics class. Mr Wainford has already met with our senior leaders and more meetings will take place, before the start of next term.

Our trust's CEO, our local authority and I are fully supportive of the above arrangements. We believe that they will benefit all concerned. The above arrangements will be kept under review and adjusted if and when necessary. I want to make it very clear, these arrangements do not mean that Mrs Levett is leaving us. They do mean that there will be a temporary change to our senior leadership team. Further, I know that Mrs Levett and Mr Carter-Tufnell have already put in place plans to enable Mrs Levett to be kept up-to-date, with all the key events at St Osyth, whilst she is on secondment.

The second matter I write about is also to do with leadership. A leadership role that you may wish to consider doing – being a member of our School Governance Board. We value the views and ideas of parents and carers. Members of School Governance Boards, that are also parents or carers bring unique insight into the support and accountability role of the board. If you would like to find out more information about the role, without any commitment to actually doing it, please visit our trusts' website <https://www.vineschoolstrust.co.uk/schools-governance-boards/> and email me, charlotte.little@dcvst.org

Best Regards,

Mrs Charlotte Little

(Chair of St Osyth School Governance Board and Vice-Chair of The Vine Schools Trust)