

Welcome Letter from Nicola Davies – Executive Headteacher – September 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,



Can I extend a very warm welcome back to all our substantive families and an extra special welcome to all our new pupils and families who have joined us at the start of this new academic year.



I want to start by updating you with who the key staff are on the Leadership Team at Holgate Primary School. The first 'sort of' new face on the team is that of your new Head of School, Miss Samantha Arnold who has taken up the reigns from Mrs Emma Severn who moved across to be Head of School at our collaborated school at the start of this term. Thank you to all our children for giving Mrs Severn such an AMAZING send off! 😊



Miss Arnold, as many of you will already know, has worked at Holgate Primary as an Assistant Headteacher for the past 4 years. She has an excellent track record of leadership and was the natural choice for myself and Governors to ask to step up to take on the day-to-day leadership of Holgate Primary School. We are still collaborated with our partner school, Sutton Road Primary, which is the other school I am the Executive Headteacher and responsible for. Miss Arnold, Mrs Severn and I have shared a close working relationship over the past few years as we have worked together in supporting a number of other schools in the Mansfield and Ashfield area, as well as improving our own.

We also have on our leadership team Mrs Amy Woodhead, Assistant Headteacher and Maths Leader. Mrs Woodhead was Miss Townsend last term but congratulations are in order for her as she got married over summer. 😊 Miss Emily Davies was also successful in applying to be an Assistant Headteacher at Holgate last term and has taken her new role on this term still leading our English developments across the school. We are also delighted to welcome our newest staff member to be recruited to the Senior Team as Mrs Rebecca Vowles has stepped into the leadership of Early Years Foundation Stage for this year to fill the area of responsibility that Miss Arnold previously held. Mrs Kerry Wilson, is our school Special Needs Coordinator (SENCO) and last, but by no means least, Mrs Sally Harvey is our Executive Inclusion Leader, whose role, like mine, is shared across both schools.

Other new faces to look out for are Mrs Joanne Eyre who is covering a maternity leave position and teaching in Year 3. Mr Gareth Smith and Mr Connor Staincliffe are also our latest recruits to join the teaching team. Mr Smith is teaching in Year 4 and Mr Staincliffe is teaching in Year 5. We hope you will join myself and Miss Arnold in helping the new staff to our school settle by giving them a heartfelt welcome alongside us.

We have a busy year ahead with lots of exciting developments in what we are planning for your children's curriculum topics. We will need lots of your involvement in generating ideas and reviewing some of the 'Curriculum Vehicles' (plans) we will be delivering so please look out for opportunities to get involved with us on this as we hope to build further on all the community involvement activity we implemented last year. Your partnership with us in supporting your child makes a big difference to the confidence and progress they make and we value this hugely.

We are also pleased to announce that our end of KS2 SATs results for summer 2019 were the highest we have had since we opened as a full Primary School and were **well above the national averages for all areas assessed**. Well done to all the Year 6 staff team and the pupils for all the hard work that went into this fantastic achievement!

I very much look forward to continuing to lead across Holgate Primary and Sutton Road Primary. Thank you all for your ongoing support in all we endeavour to provide for your child and for your belief in choosing Holgate Primary for them. We know it continues to be a very special place which we are extremely proud of. So look out on our website, Facebook page and through our communications over the coming months and we will keep you posted about our activities and developments. However, do not hesitate to contact our school office on Tel: 0115 9638649 or email: office@holgateprimary.org should you require any assistance or need more information on anything.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'N. Davies'.

Nicola Davies
Executive Headteacher