

Sandal Magna Community Academy  
*The heart and future of the community*

Belle Vue Road, Wakefield, West Yorkshire, WF1 5NF Tel: 01924 767080 Web: [www.sandalmagna.co.uk](http://www.sandalmagna.co.uk)  
Headteacher: Louise Sennett [headteacher@sandalmagna.co.uk](mailto:headteacher@sandalmagna.co.uk) Sponsored by the Enhance Academy Trust Company No. 07904096

Dear Parents and Carers,

### **STAFFING CHANGES AFTER EASTER**

As you may be aware, two members of our teaching staff will be leaving us around Easter time; Mrs Thompson, our Y2 Teacher, KS1 Leader and Maths Leader, will leave us at the end of March. Mr Smith, our Y5 Teacher and PE Coordinator, will leave at the end of April.

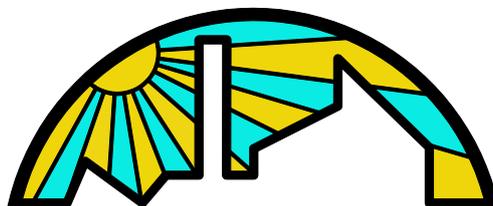
Mrs Thompson has taught at Sandal Magna since September 2014. Although she has mainly taught in Y2, she also spent a year in Y5/6 and has recently taught maths to our current Y5 children. One of Mrs Thompson's main responsibilities has been leading mathematics across the school. It is true to say that she has transformed maths teaching at Sandal Magna – teaching has gone from strength to strength because of Mrs Thompson's input and passion for the subject. The children thoroughly enjoy their Big Maths sessions and their basic skills in maths are improving as a result. Since September, Mrs Thompson has also encouraged all staff to take a more practical and 'problem solving' based approach in maths lessons – this is ensuring that all children make more progress within maths. Mrs Thompson is a very popular member of staff with parents and the children love to work for her. Sandal Magna will certainly be a very different place without her but we know that she is ready for a new challenge at another school in Wakefield. We wish her lots of luck for the future.

Mr Smith has taught at Sandal Magna since January 2013. He initially started work with us as a supply teacher and proved to be a very popular member of staff, quickly earning himself a permanent teaching position within KS2. In the last few years, Mr Smith has been able to complete his Level 5 and 6 Primary School PE Specialism qualification. This has meant that since September he has been teaching PE lessons across school, which the younger children in KS1 have particularly enjoyed. Mr Smith has also been responsible for organising more sporting events out of school; we now have sports clubs three nights a week and more frequent tournaments. This is something that we hope to continue with in the summer term. Mr Smith is currently looking for a new teaching position in Early Years a little closer to home – we wish him the best of luck in his search.

We will not officially be replacing either teacher for the summer term, instead we are restructuring the rest of the class/teacher set-up across school:

- Miss Fox has been sharing the teaching of Y2 since September, she will take over full responsibility of the class after the Easter holidays. Mrs Taylor, our EYFS Leader, will also support Miss Fox in this role as she has several years of teaching experience in Y2.





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- During Mr Smith's absences this year, Y5 have been taught by Mrs Jackson and Miss Grindle. They both have very positive relationships with the Y5 children and have helped to maintain stability when Mr Smith has been out of school. The children enjoy their teaching styles and work well for both staff, therefore the Y5 teaching will be shared between Mrs Jackson and Miss Grindle for the summer term.

### Class structure from Easter

Nursery	-	Miss Cranham
Reception	-	Mrs Taylor
Year One	-	Miss Abernethy
Year Two	-	Miss Fox
Year Three	-	Mr Carver
Year Four	-	Mrs Sketchley
Year Five	-	Mrs Jackson & Miss Grindle
Year Six	-	Mrs Shepherd

Thank you for your continued support during a very busy (and snowy) Easter term. We look forward to seeing all parents at next week's parents' evenings and Easter workshops.

Kind regards,

Mrs L Sennett  
Headteacher

