

# St Martin's Church of England Primary School

'Learning together, achieving together'



Executive Headteacher: Mrs Elliott

Head of School: Mrs Thomas

27<sup>th</sup> June 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

As it is our last term, we are putting our minds ahead to next year. Thank you to all parents and carers who have entrusted your children into our care; we will continue to strive to be the best carers we can for everyone and give your children the best learning and experiences that they deserve.

Like so many schools in the area, we continue to have lower pupil numbers. To ensure that no child is disadvantaged and everyone gets the same learning experiences, we will continue to have a mixed year group class structure across all the school, except for Reception. With our current pupil numbers this the fairest system.

Year Groups	Teachers
Reception	Miss Muff-Dolphins
3 Year 1/2 classes	Mrs Bassett- Turtles Miss Parker- Starfish Miss Hodge and Miss Saunders-Penguins
3 Year 3/4 classes	Mrs Organ- Stingrays Mrs Jones and Mrs Maynard- Seals Miss Upham and Mrs Ellis- Orcas
3 Year 5/6 classes	Mrs Emery- Puffins Mr Feeley- Kingfishers Mrs Read and Mrs Manning- Ospreys

The children will be told their new classes on our transition day (Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> July) and will meet their new teacher and classmates then.

When planning classes for next year we first looked at the current splits. Where they are working well and are balanced, we plan to move them up together. This means that currently the Year 2 and 3 children will move up as they are.

Over the year some classes have become unbalanced because of all the wonderful new pupils who have joined us this year and we will need to mix the cohort again. Our current Year 5 need to be split from 2 classes into 3.

When deciding classes, we have considered carefully which pupils will be in which class and have balanced: age, birthdays, gender, Special Educational Needs, behaviour needs and a variety of other factors. The children's current class teachers have been considerate with which pupils they have paired up as they work with them daily, know them the best and know who they work with well. For this reason, we will not be asking the children to choose friendships for the next academic year.

Class time is not a social time to be with friends and there will be plenty of opportunities for the year groups to mix and meet back together at several points of the day such as: playtimes, lunchtimes and when we set for specific lessons such as phonics and maths. Getting along and meeting a variety of people is important in life and we know that creating new friendships is an important part of their social development.

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**"though many, we make up one" (1 Corinthians, 12:12)**

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This year we have had great success with our mixed year groups. The teachers are very skilled at ensuring that the focus is still on individual pupil's progress. We have already started planning the curriculum so no child misses any part of their year group curriculum and each year, in every class, there is always wide range of abilities and needs to be catered for and in split classes this is no different. The teachers will work very collaboratively together across both schools so all the children in a year group, even if in a different class, will get the same curriculum provision and experiences. As stated, there will be times when they are still taught as a whole year group within the timetable.

Many of you will have noticed from the table above that there are some new additions to our staff team. Mrs Read, Mrs Manning and Mr Feeley will be joining us next year from Worle Village Primary and Mr Leeson is moving across to Worle Village Primary to work in Year 6. As you will be aware I am Executive Headteacher across both schools and this has been a good opportunity to share and distribute experience and leadership across both schools.

If you have a specific concern, please communicate this to us and we will listen to your thoughts and explain our thinking. Wishing everyone a happy and healthy Term 6 and upcoming Summer holidays.

Best wishes,  
*S Elliott*  
Mrs Elliott