



Dungells Lane, Yateley, Hampshire GU46 6EY
Telephone: 01252 871188 Facsimile: 01252876581
www.newlandsprimary.net
E-mail: enquiries@newlands.hants.sch.uk
Headteacher: Mr William Neighbour

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Dear Beech Class (2020-21),

It was with great pleasure that I found out that I will be teaching one of my favourite classes again! For those of you who remember, I was lucky enough to teach you in Year 2 and I now have the pleasure to teach you for another year at Newlands. Although most of you already know me, I thought I would write to you to tell you a little more about what has changed and what we will be doing in Year 5, as I will not get to see all of you before the summer break.

As you know already, my name is Mrs Richardson. I have been a teacher at Newlands for the past 7 years; you could say I know my way around the school pretty well! I started teaching here as an NQT and spent 3 years in Year 1 before moving into Year 2. Having taught most of you in Year 2, I left to have my second baby, Tilly, who is now almost 2. You then may have seen me and my tummy looking rather large when I returned last year because I had another baby, Alfie, who is now almost 10 months! My eldest Eve, who is now 4, will start school in September. She always asks me lots of questions about the children I teach and I'm sure she will have lots of questions for you Year 5s. The last couple of years have been very busy feeding babies and changing nappies but I cannot wait to get back to teaching especially to teach all you lovely lot!

You are very lucky to have two teachers, myself and Mrs Harris. Although Mrs Harris and I have worked in the same school for a long time, we have never taught together. I am really excited to be working alongside her. I will be teaching you Thursdays and Fridays and Mrs Harris will be teaching you the rest of the time.

As you may remember, I love reading. Mrs Harris and I have chosen some really interesting texts to focus on this year and we have planned lots of exciting activities. In September, our topic will be 'To Infinity and Beyond'. We will build on what you have already learnt about our planet, focusing on the movement of the Earth and moon as well as other planets. This scientific topic will lend itself to explore forces and we are going to have lots of fun testing the rules of gravity!

Our goal for next year is to get you all settled back into school as quickly as possible. We have a lot to cover this year, so make sure you are well rested and ready for some challenges. If you have any spare time during the summer break, please read A LOT. Try and read a variety of different texts, whether it be fiction or non-fiction. Additionally, please practise your times tables as these are fundamental in Year 5.

Mr Gray has told me lots of lovely things about you (which I already knew!). I cannot wait to see you all again in September and I am very excited to be working in Year 5 alongside you. I hope you all have a wonderful summer break, please stay safe and I will see you all in September.

With best wishes to you all,

Mrs Richardson