

Oaklands Junior School

Headteacher - Mrs H West

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24th May 2018

Dear Year 4 Parents/Guardians,

Y4 Year Group Re-structure for Y5

I am writing to inform you about the reorganisation of the Y4 classes in readiness for their move to Y5. After the summer half term we traditionally begin to think about mixing the two Y4 classes for their final two years at Oaklands Juniors. They have already gone through a similar process in Y2, when the Infant School set the classes for their move to us in Year 3.

Children are always involved in this process by stating 5 friends that they would like to be with. They are made aware that whilst they choose 5, it is unlikely that they will get all their choices. They are guaranteed at least one friend, and often end up with more, but they are never told that they will get their first choice, just at least one name from their list.

Maths groups generally stay the same as children move up to Year 5, but we always review half termly whether anyone needs to move to a different set; this happens in every year group throughout their life at Oaklands Juniors.

Our Year 4 teachers create these new classes by using the following methodology:

- Firstly, we separate any children who, using our professional judgement, we feel would benefit academically or socially from being apart.
- Next, we look at the English attainment of all the remaining children and put a balanced mix of current English attainment in each class, which includes a balance of gender.
- Finally, we then check the names that the children have put down as their choices of friends, making sure that all children have at least one friend from those that they wrote down, but endeavouring to give more.

This list is thoroughly checked and also shared with Year 3 teachers and teaching assistants, to ensure that nothing has been overlooked. Our SENCo then has the opportunity to review the new class lists before they are finalised.

For any children who we feel would benefit, we ensure that there are extra opportunities to meet with the Year 5 teaching team so that they feel more confident about the move. Children are always excited to know who their new teacher will be and who will be in the same class, but they do not know which class they will be in until this is announced on our 'changeover' afternoon in July. This allows children to meet their new teacher and to see who will also be in their new class. They spend approximately an hour there, before returning to their Year 4 class. We feel that this transition prepares them for knowing where their new classroom will be, along with getting to know their new teacher and teaching assistants.

We hope that this explains the process but if you have any concerns or would like any further information, please do not hesitate to contact your child's class teacher.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "HWest". The letters are cursive and slightly slanted to the right.

Mrs. H. West
Headteacher