St Mary's CE Primary School

'Trust in the Lord and Flourish' (Proverbs 11:28)

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Headteacher: Mrs Nathalie Milhavy-Jones BA(Hons), PGCE, MPQH

Friday 8th September 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

It gives me great pleasure to write my first letter to you as Headteacher of St Mary's CE Primary school. I feel extremely privileged to have been chosen to continue the great work of the school and to develop it still further, in the next stage of its journey. In addition, I am delighted to be back at St Mary's, after having left as a pupil over 30 years ago!

As a parent myself, I have always wished for my children to be happy in life and to achieve the best they can. Likewise, my wish for every child at St Mary's is that they will feel happy and be provided with every opportunity to achieve their full potential. In this way, they will leave the school as confident, articulate and resilient learners who are ready for the next stage of their education.

I have worked in education for over 20 years in a variety of different settings. I began my teaching career at Moorfield Primary school in Newport. Then, moved to Hinstock Primary school and then on to my previous post as Deputy Headteacher of St Michael's CE (A) primary school, which I held for 14 years. During part of this time, I also took on an interim role as Head of School at Christ Church CE Infant school. I believe the knowledge and experience I have gained during this time, puts me in a good position to identify the next steps to take St Mary's forward.

I am passionate about teaching and educating children and believe our children should be at the heart of every decision we make in school. Our Christian ethos should underpin all that we do, and it is our strong Christian values and our belief in our motto *'Trust in the Lord and Flourish'* that supports us in creating a purposeful, nurturing learning environment. We strive to offer an inspiring and exciting learning environment in which excellence is pursued.

I can already see St Mary's is a strong community with children, staff, parents and governors all working closely together to try and provide the very best educational experience for our children. I feel extremely fortunate to have been made to feel so welcome by parents, children and staff alike. It has been a pleasure to see so many smiley faces on the gate each morning and to receive so many well wishes. I think it is crucial to involve our children and their families as partners in their education. I am keen on building a whole school community which thrives on mutual respect and values positive relationships. I know how vital working in partnership with parents really is, in order for children to find school a positive and rewarding experience. Effective channels of communication between yourselves as parents/carers and members of school staff are essential. Therefore, we endeavour as a school to be approachable and will always allocate time to listen.

I look forward to getting to know even more of you in the weeks and months ahead .

With my warmest wishes,

Nathalie Milhavy-Jones

Mrs N Milhavy-Jones
(Headteacher)

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