



Acting Head Teacher:
Mr Stewart James

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Friday 13th September 2013

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to the new academic year!

Welcome to everyone returning and new to Barcombe school this year and I hope you all enjoyed the summer holidays. We extend a particularly warm welcome to all the children, parents and carers who are new to our school. At Barcombe we pride ourselves in being open, friendly and caring, so I hope you all feel part of the school 'family' very soon.

It is an exciting year for the school as we also welcome new members of staff with a fantastic combination of skills and experience – Miss Foster (Squirrel Class Teacher), Mrs Jenkinson (Teacher for single group of Year 1 children each morning), Mrs Pryor (Inclusion Manager), Mr Allen (Badger Class Teacher) and Mr Walton (Acting Deputy Head and Owl Class Teacher). I am particularly pleased that, with the resources we have secured, we are this year able to provide Key Stage 1 children teaching in single year groups each morning.

May I introduce myself to those of you who don't yet know me. I am Chair of the school Governors, elected as Chair in March 2012 and have been a governor for five years. I have lived in Barcombe village for thirty years and believe the school to be at the heart of our community. I am very committed, alongside our full Governing Body, to seeing our school continue to succeed and develop.

The role of the Governing Body is to support and be a critical friend to the School Head, leadership and teaching team. We are responsible for the conduct of the school and aim to attain and maintain the highest standards of educational achievement and the best environment possible for our children with the full use of resources available to us. We also value enormously and support the fantastic work done by the Parent Teacher Association (PTA).

We are grateful for the commitment, time and experience brought by all our Governor colleagues who include parents and carers, members of our local community and local authority. We said a very fond farewell and a big thank you for their years of experience and support to two of our Governors in July – David Dyer and Roger Homan. Our current Governing Body includes: Basil Bigg, Tania Cornwell, Andrew Flemming, James Hollingsworth, Andrew Lamont, Paul Mundy, Gillian Shapiro and Jacqui Tomsett. You may already know some of us. If not, we are really keen to meet you and there will be opportunities to do just

that during the year ahead.

Over the past year, Stewart James has stepped up from his role as Deputy Head and continues to do an amazing job as Acting Head. One of our most important roles this year as a Governing Body is to appoint a permanent Head Teacher. We will be in a position to do this at the start of 2014.

As ever, we are mindful of the changes and challenges in education that lie ahead for the school as well as the opportunities open to us. I look forward to working again this year with the amazing community we have at Barcombe as we strive to deliver an excellent education for all our children.

Best wishes

Sheila Holden

Chair of Governors

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East Sussex County Council

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