



MONTALBO NURSERY & PRIMARY SCHOOL

...Climbing to Success!

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Head Teacher: Miss A.Fawcett

05 January 2015

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Firstly, I would like to wish you all a 'Happy New Year!' I hope you enjoyed the Christmas break and that 2015 brings you happiness, peace and success.

I am delighted to be writing this first letter of the New Year to you as the new Head teacher of Montalbo Primary and Nursery school. Although I've already met a few of you at the meetings held last term, there are still many of you whom I've yet to meet and I hope that I'll have the opportunity to do so over the next few weeks. I'll be outside school at the beginning and end of the day, so please pop over and say "Hello!" I've always found building strong relationships with Parents/Carers is extremely valuable and I hope that you feel the same. As I appreciate it may take some time to meet you all, I thought a brief letter of introduction may be useful!

I live in Spennymoor with my partner Nigel, teenage son Charlie and our delightful springer spaniel – Honey Dog. In my spare time, I enjoy keeping fit at my local gym and spend a lot of time following my son and his football team. I also like to hear live music or read when I have a quiet moment, which is rare!

I have enjoyed a very successful teaching career so far, working in a variety of schools in the North East of England. I have also been employed as a consultant/ trainer for Ruth Miskin OBE, a leading authority on teaching reading. In this role I have had the opportunity to support schools around the country and overseas with the teaching of literacy and to help schools improve, which have been causing a concern in Ofsted terms. This will be my first *permanent* Headship and I'm extremely excited that it's at Montalbo where I feel inspired by its uniqueness.

I am hard working, dedicated and very much a team player. I am fair, honest and approachable as I'm sure you'll find and you can rest assured that I will work tirelessly, alongside the wonderfully supportive Staff and Governors here at Montalbo to ensure that the school continues to flourish.



I aim to improve on the school's existing strengths and will not make unnecessary changes. Where changes are required, I will consult all of the interested parties first. I intend to spend the first term really getting to know the school, the Staff, the Governors, the children and their families and members of the wider community. I will also be looking at the areas for development, which were highlighted in the last Ofsted inspection and I will address these swiftly as well as some other areas identified by Staff, Governors and Parents. I am passionate that Montalbo provides an outstanding education for its pupils.

At the end of December Mrs. Williams handed in her resignation due to ill health. We are very sorry to lose Mrs. Williams. We have put plans in place quickly to maintain consistency for class 2 and are pleased to announce Mr. Tommy Hughes, who has been teaching in Reception during Mrs. Ridley's absence, will be taking over responsibility for this class. This means that Miss Christina Pinder will be covering Reception Class until Mrs. Ridley returns.

As a school leader, I have always taken the views of the school community very seriously and I will be looking at ways to continue to improve the communication systems and provide you with regular opportunities to meet with your child's teacher, myself and the leadership team as well as developing the school as an integral part of the community. If you have any ideas yourself about this or anything else, please post them in the suggestion box, which will be in the reception area. Similarly, if you have any concerns or questions about any part of your child's education or the school in general, please feel free to drop in and make an appointment.

We would also appreciate any support you can offer the school. You may want to join the Friends of Montalbo School to help with fund raising or offer to share any skills or experiences you may have, which would be of interest to our children. If you feel you can help in any way or want to know more about how you can help the school, please call in or ring and I'll be happy to discuss this further.

Finally, I look forward to a happy and productive relationship with the whole school community over the coming years and I'm confident that we will work together well to provide the best educational opportunities possible for the children at Montalbo Primary and Nursery School.

With kind regards,

Miss AJ Fawcett

Head Teacher