

Dear Parents

This year we have made the decision to mix the children as they move from year 1 into year 2, and from year 2 as they move to the Junior School. Children in year R will remain in their current classes as they move to year 1.

We have traditionally mixed our children at least once during their time at the Infant school, as we believe they benefit from the experience of making new friends and mixing with new people. However, because of the pandemic, we chose not to do this, as we believed they needed stability, having had long periods of time out of school.

I know that teachers have spoken to many of you who agree that it is the right decision to mix classes. We also appreciate that some of you may feel a little anxious about this change and we do understand this. However, we know from experience that it helps to build resilience in children and encourages them to make new friends. I can absolutely assure you that a lot of care and time is taken to make sure that children will be happy in their new classes, and we particularly try to make sure that your child will be matched with a friend, but also with other children who help them to learn best. We also ensure that we put a comprehensive transition programme in place, particularly for those children moving to the Junior School. They will have lots of opportunities to visit and to meet their new teachers.

If you have anything you would like to discuss about our plans please make sure that you have a conversation with your child's teacher after school, **before** half term when the new classes will be finalised. We will listen to your concerns and discuss with you our thinking about why a child may have been put in a particular class, although we cannot promise to meet all of your requests. We hope you trust that we know your children well and that ultimately we want them to be happy and to learn well.

With love from

Jacky