



Family



Partnership

at



Old Park

December 2024

Issue 8

### Family Partnership in Action

Welcome to our Family Partnership at Old Park School newsletter. Following the school's success in achieving the Leading Parent Partnership Award (LPPA), we remain committed to developing our relationship with parents, carers and families. We welcome and value your contribution and suggestions.

Our **Family Forum** met on 6th November 2024. The focus for the meeting was **supporting families with SEND children**. We shared ideas on what could be included in an 'information booklet' for our families such as SEND clubs, support groups, benefits etc. We will collate this information and produce a booklet for our families to refer to. We hope to share this with you in the spring term. A huge thank you to all the members of the Family Forum for their time and contribution.

### Key Dates for the Diary

- 2nd December - Meet the DHT coffee morning (9:30am)
- 4th December - PTA coffee morning (9:30am)
- Wb: 9th December - Family Learning sessions
- 10th December - Lower Phase Nativity (1:30pm)
- 11th December - Christmas dinner
- 12th December - Christmas jumper day
- Wb: 16th December - Christmas parties
- 16th December - Primary Christmas Carols event (9:30am)
- 17th December - Secondary Christmas Carols event (9:30am)
- 18th December - Christmas concert, Dudley Town Hall (5:30pm)
- 19th December - Christmas pyjama party (5:30pm)
- 20th December - End of term
- 6th January 2025 - INSET day
- 7th January 2025 - Pupils return to school

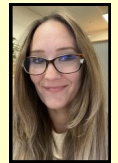
### Meet the Team

On each newsletter we take the opportunity to introduce members of the Old Park School team. In this issue we meet our new Headteacher, Deputy Headteacher and one of our teachers.

Hello Families and Carers, many of you know me already as I started at Old Park School in September. Thank you all, for making me feel welcome.

I have worked in SEND for 25 years, starting as a teacher in Sunfield School and Children's Home. I have worked in a variety of different SEND settings and schools, working my way up to Head Teacher. My first Headship was at a special residential school in Evesham, where I took the lead in the school's improvement journey.

I am enjoying my time at Old Park School. We have amazing pupils and families, and I look forward to getting to know you all. It is wonderful working with such a dedicated team and such supportive families.



Hello! I am Sarah Hooton and I am the new Deputy Head, I started on November the 3rd. I started my teaching career way back in 2006 in Mainstream where I worked as a SENCO. I loved the Special Needs element of this role and it inspired me to move into Special Needs Education back in 2009. I have taught in both Primary SEN and Secondary SEN; my specialism was teaching Key Stage 4. I was at my previous school for 14 years, where I developed from Class Teacher, to Maths Lead, to Curriculum Lead, to Assistant Head and finally Deputy Head. I love working within the Special School environment, the children are wonderful and make every day different and enjoyable. I am excited to start a new journey at Old Park School, along with all the new challenges it will bring and look forward to working with you all.



Hello, I am Miss Mckinney and I am the new teacher in Form 1. This is my first year teaching at Old Park School, though I previously worked here for six years as a Teaching Assistant. During that time, I had the pleasure of working with many of you and I am already familiar with aspects of school life. I am delighted to be starting my teaching career at Old Park and I look forward to working with both the children and their families to achieve the best outcomes for everyone.



### School Developments

**Old Park PTA (Parent-Teacher Association)** We will be re-introducing a PTA at Old Park School and we are very excited about beginning this journey. Please join us for the PTA coffee morning on 4th December at 9:30am if you are interested in joining the team. Please inform the office if you are interested, but unable to attend on 4th.



Contact

Old Park School  
Thorns Road, Brierley Hill, DY5 2JY  
01384 818905  
www.oldpark.org

If you have any ideas, comments or questions about Family Partnership, please feel free to email office1@old-park.dudley.sch.uk