

MAGIC ARC SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

Summer 1

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Parents' Evening: 18th July, 6.00pm

This is an important occasion for parents and staff to meet to discuss pupil progress and for parents to ask questions and gain a better understanding of the work we do. You will receive a formal invitation in due course, but please make a note of the date in your diaries. We look forward to welcoming you. If you do not drive, we will do our utmost to arrange transportation. Please let us know your requirements once you have received our letter

Introduction from the Head

Welcome to the 3rd edition of our Newsletter. We aim to highlight key news items and to keep you informed of developments at Magic Arc. We continue to make progress against our action plan and on the design of our new curriculum for September 2019, where we will be combining STEM subjects with experiential learning and the natural world. Our aim is to foster resilience and self-reliance and to teach social and team skills that will stand pupils in good stead when they leave school. As always, we work in partnership with parents and carers and value your support in nurturing and educating our children. I look forward to welcoming you all at our Parents Evening on Thursday 18th July. I will write to you separately about this next term. I wish you and your family a pleasant half-term break.

*Mrs Emmett
Headteacher*

Magic Announces . . .

New Policies

Magic Arc's Positive Behaviour and Anti bullying policy is now in place. Thank you to those parents who have looked at them from a parental perspective. We value positive behaviour in school and continue to work in partnership with parents/carers so that Magic Arc can be a safe environment for everyone.

School Uniform

We will be introducing a school uniform from the new academic year - September 2019. This will include our new logo which we will share with you when you join us for parents' evening. I will write to you all separately about this.

Reading Challenge

Pupils in KS1 – KS3 are making good progress towards achieving their 60 reads. Please support us in this important educational journey. Our new library has opened with hundreds of new books. Pupils are encouraged to use this facility every day.

Restructure

The restructure of our school is now complete. We are advertising a number of new roles and a number of existing staff will be moving into new positions within the school. The new structure will be embedded along with the new curriculum for September 2019. This will enable the school to ensure pupils education, well-being and development is at the heart of what we do.

Staff

We say goodbye to Verity Cutting and Shirley Coulson-Smith who are leaving us at the end of half-term. We wish them both well in their future endeavours. Pupils and staff will miss them both.

We say hello to three new members of staff:

- Gladness Ndhlovu – Learning Support (until July 2019)
- Sam Hales – Induction and Assessment
- Sandy Sandhu – Teacher for Key Stage 3

Magic Presents...

Teacher – Edwina Beeney:

I joined the school in March and have greatly enjoyed my time here so far. My background is in primary teaching with a specialism in science and I have a degree in biology. I have been working in Neptune class but have taught science across the school. Next term, I am looking forward to Neptune's English topic on Explorers and Amelia Earhart and I am very excited about teaching the biology GCSE from September.



Careers Day

Ben from BL IT Solutions came in to talk about running his own business and having autism and the hurdles he has had to overcome growing up and setting up his business. This was an uplifting presentation because he was able to show pupils what can be achieved and how to turn being on the autistic spectrum to an advantage. We aim to show pupils new paths to employment and further study as a result of their experience at Magic Arc and to assist them in developing resilience and ambition.

Ofsted

Through our Action Plan, we continue to address the findings from the November 2018 Ofsted inspection. My updated commentary is set out below under the inspection headings.

Leadership and Management

- The school re-structure has now taken place, with new roles being introduced to strengthen education delivery and accountability for pupil performance. Once all roles have been recruited to, I will share this information with the wider school community
- The school has set up an Advisory Board to assist the school in its strategic development and to provide external inputs as necessary. Its members are:
 - Nicole Bradley who is Headteacher at Blue Skies School
 - Gavin Evans – Head of Primary Education at the Skills for Life Trust
 - A parent from our school community

We very much look forward to working with them to strengthen the quality of our provision.

Quality of Teaching, Learning and Assessment

- Data shows that pupils are making good progress across English and Maths. Individual pupil data will be shared with parents/carers at Parents' Evening and in pupil reports at the end of next term
- A new curriculum is being prepared, ready for September. More details to follow

Behaviour, Welfare and Safety

- A new "I Need to Talk" box has been set up to ensure that pupils can request access to members of staff if they are feeling worried or upset about anything
- Kelly Lovell will be moving into the position of Pupil Wellbeing Coordinator from after the half-term. Her focus will be to support pupils and their families to ensure our children are accessing education. I will write to you separately about this.
- Safeguarding policies and practices are continually being updated to ensure pupils are safe