



THE FEDERATION OF BURLEY AND SOPLEY PRIMARY SCHOOLS



Friday 28th November 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are delighted to share some staffing updates with you.

As you know, Miss Biddle has returned from maternity leave and, after Christmas, will resume her class-based responsibilities. To support a smooth transition, she has already been teaching in Hedgehogs class one day a week. From January 1st, Miss Biddle will teach on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. We are also excited to welcome a new part-time teacher, Mr Rudd, who previously worked at Bovington Primary. He will teach Wednesday afternoons, Thursdays, and Fridays, completing the teaching duo for Hedgehog Class. As part of the recruitment process, Mr Rudd delivered a maths lesson to Hedgehogs class, and we are thrilled to have him join our team. He will be in school on December 8th, 9th, and 10th, and we will arrange for him to be at the classroom door so parents can meet him at drop-off or pick-up. In addition, Mr Rudd will cover Mr James's class every Wednesday morning to provide Mr James with his statutory planning time.

As mentioned in the Autumn 1 newsletter, Miss Sewell, our new deputy head will also be starting in January. Miss Sewell will, like myself, work across both our schools and will also support with class cover when needed.

Sadly, we will be saying goodbye to Miss Towers at Christmas. She has been a valued member of our team, and we know she will go on to achieve great things, we wish her all the best.

Finally, we are very sad to announce that Mr Floyd, our site manager, will be leaving us at the end of this term. He has secured a position much closer to home, we are very grateful for everything he has done to support the two schools. And while we are sad to see him go, we are delighted for him.

We have appointed a new site manager, Mr Applegarth-Jones as his replacement, and he will start next week to allow time for a full handover.

Kind regards,

Mr Mathew Bowen
Executive Headteacher
The Federation of Burley and Sopley Primary Schools

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