



3rd July 2017

Dear parents/carers,

I am writing to tell you about a change for Park Grove from September 2017. Madame Steunou has been offered a very exciting career development opportunity, working across schools in the Ebor Trust.

From September, Madame Steunou will work across schools in both York and Selby to set up systems and practices to promote better provision for SEN across the Trust. I am extremely proud of Valerie's achievements in the area of SEND at Park Grove and beyond and know that she now has the opportunity to help and support even more children on a wider scale. I am a firm believer in inclusion and I am delighted that Madame Steunou can help shape the SEN provision across our Trust.

Valerie has been doing outreach work for some time now and as a result we have had a lot of time to plan for the day when she would want to make this career move. Regarding French teaching, we have been training Miss Effy Ford to do this and she will continue in this role from September. We will plan over the Summer for exactly how the PPA cover will work in Key Stage 2 but at this stage, we can only tell you that Miss Ford will teach the French. She will be well supported by the Ebor Trust and their modern foreign language training as well as continuing in a training programme that she has already been working on for several months.

The SEND work that Madame Steunou currently does at Park Grove will be carried out by Ms Liz Martindale and Miss Natalie Slater, who are both members of our fantastic Pupil Support Team. Liz will concentrate mainly on the SEND while Natalie continues to work on the pastoral side of pupil support. We will also be increasing our pupil support team in September and will be advertising shortly.

Let me assure parents with children with additional needs that Ms Martindale and Miss Slater know your children very well and there will be no issues with crossover. Ms Martindale and Miss Slater have had advanced training in all areas of pupil support and I am confident that with increased capacity within the Pupil Support Team, parents will continue to be very happy with our provision.

Over the next few weeks and months, Ms Martindale will be arranging meetings with all parents with children on the SEN register to personally introduce herself and to reassure you. In the meantime, I will be the named SENDCO for the school from September to ensure that we have a smooth transition. My door is always open and you can come and speak to me about any concerns or worries and I will personally ensure that standards are maintained.

I understand that there will be parents who have worked very closely with Madame Steunou who will be upset that she is leaving. Let me assure you that I am passionate about inclusion and provision for children with SEND and that you do not need to worry. I hope that you will join me in congratulating Madame Steunou because her promotion will lead to many more children benefiting from her dedication and drive to fight for the best provision for those with additional needs. I have always been committed to developing staff and helping them to further their careers so that we can promote positive change in education (not just at Park Grove but beyond) so I am very proud to wish Madame Steunou a fantastic career ahead.

A huge thank you to Madame Steunou for her years of service at Park Grove. She will be missed dearly at Park Grove because of her positive, sunny personality; her wicked sense of humour, but perhaps more importantly her amazing baking!! We are delighted that she will still be drawing on her expertise through the Ebor Academy Trust.

Thank you for your support and please do not hesitate to come and see me if you have any concerns.

Best wishes

Jo Sawyer
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