



**Headteacher: Sara Rider**

**Assistant Headteachers:**

Hans Ramduth, Rebecca Seaton,  
Rachel Mottershead,  
Georgina Nixon

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November 2017

Dear Parents,

### **New Classes for January 2017 in Year 3**

In July, many of you came and spoke to me to ask why the children were not being split up as they entered year 3. I know that there were many reasons as to why you, as parents believed this would be beneficial for your children. I was also asked as to why the children were not being put into 5 classes as they have been in every other year group.

We were unable to do this at the start of term due to staff maternity cover, but changes have occurred that now make this possible!

I am therefore incredibly pleased to announce that from January, we are now able to structure the classes in year 3 following the model used across our school and in all schools within our academy trust, Partnership Learning. In order to support all pupils to achieve their very best we will be putting on an extra class – five classes rather than the current four.

The extra class in will give us the flexibility to best meet everyone's needs, with classes based on the needs of different groups of pupils, so that all can make rapid progress towards challenging targets. I truly believe and our fantastic SATs results (**most improved school overall in Barking and Dagenham**) last year prove categorically that this system works.

Pupils have been allocated to their new classes based on our current assessment of their progress and our aspirational targets and expectations for each of them. You will receive a letter on **Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December** explaining the class that your child has been allocated.

Three classes ( Elm, Oak, Ash) will be in our Accelerated Pathway, pushed very hard and fast – targeted to achieve significantly above national expected levels by the end of the year.

One class (Fir Class- Miss Pass ) will follow our Standard Pathway, working at a steady pace to give plenty of time to deepen understanding – targeted to achieve at least national expected levels.

One class ( Holly- Miss Smith ) will follow our Supported Pathway, with lots of extra support, particularly with English and Maths - targeted to work towards national expected levels.





This structure has worked very successfully for us last year in year 3 and across the school for the last 2 years and has been very popular with parents and pupils.

We believe that delivering the curriculum at Thames View through the three pathways offers the best opportunities for:

- achievement to be maximised
- each pupil to have a curriculum appropriate to their needs
- teachers to deliver lessons at an appropriate pace
- expectations and targets to be set and reinforced
- pupils to be challenged and supported at the right level
- a positive learning environment to be nurtured and maintained
- pupils to develop confidence and self-esteem, whilst competing with their classmates
- allowing efficiently for smaller group sizes for those needing additional support

There will be ample opportunities for pupils to move between pathways as their needs and aptitudes develop and change during the year and throughout their time with us, either because they are performing above the expected level for their current pathway or are showing signs of needing additional support. Movement between pathways will mainly take place at the start of a new academic year but may sometimes be appropriate at the start each half term or term, depending on the results of our ongoing assessment.

If you have any questions about the new classes, I will be available for parents to drop in to see me on **Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> December July between 9am and 10am and from 4.30-5.30pm.**

We are rightly confident about the positive impact the pathways will have on achievement for all the pupils in the year group and are really excited about implementing them in January.

Thank you for your continued support.

Best Wishes,

Sara

