



21st January 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

I wanted to write and let you know about some exciting times ahead for Penhale Infant School and Newbridge Junior School. As parents of children at Penhale will know, Mrs Keller (Headteacher of Penhale) is retiring at Easter and the Thinking Schools Academy Trust has appointed me as Headteacher of both schools.

For those of you who don't know me, I have been in teaching for over 20 years and have been Headteacher of Newbridge since 2014 (having previously been the deputy headteacher) when we joined the Thinking Schools Academy Trust. Over the years, I have worked closely with Mrs Keller and we have a very similar ethos for education. I am passionate about helping children to have the greatest experiences at school, aspiring to be the best they can be and developing a love of learning that will take them through their education and beyond. I want all our children to learn the values of respect, resilience and independence so that they can grow into good citizens in our ever-changing world.

This really is a wonderful opportunity to bring these two fantastic schools together. Both schools are rated 'Good' by Ofsted, both schools deliver great learning experiences and both schools achieve results in line with or above the national averages. When we join all of this together there is no measure as to how amazing we can become. As part of the Thinking Schools Academy Trust, both schools are part of a thinking journey. Newbridge has recently been awarded Advanced Thinking Accreditation (one of only 3 primary schools in the country) and is therefore in a fantastic position to support Penhale through their journey.

I am very much looking forward to working with all the children and seeing them flourish and move seamlessly through their primary education. There are endless opportunities for collaboration which will enhance learning and help build excellent relationships, including sharing outcomes of learning across both schools, celebrating successes and ensuring there are shared systems and approaches.

I would like to reassure you all that the same high standard of learning will continue to take place at both schools – Mrs Denton and Miss Morris (current deputy headteachers) will be taking on the new role of Heads of School at each site, ensuring capacity to allow us all to continue to improve. Your children's happiness, safety and learning are always our main concerns and we will all strive to ensure they continue to have the very best education that we can offer.

If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Anna Webb
Headteacher

Natalie Sheppard
Director of Education

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www.newbridgejuniorschool.org.uk

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