



Crakehall Church of England Primary School

Executive Headteacher – Mr. M. White Associate Headteacher – Mr. A. Firmin
Deputy Headteacher – Miss L. Wagstaff



Tuesday 5th September, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to a brand new academic year at Crakehall Primary school. We hope both you and the children have had an enjoyable summer. The new academic year brings with it a new leadership team and it seems pertinent to introduce ourselves.



Firstly - Mr Firmin, our school's new Associate Headteacher. I will be responsible for the day to day running of the school and will be spending 2 days a week working at Crakehall. These days will be flexible depending on what is happening each week but Mrs. Fryatt will keep you updated with this information through our school website, email and texting service. I have been teaching at Brompton-on-Swale CE Primary School for over 11 years now (the last 5 as Deputy Headteacher); including secondments at a range of local primary schools, supporting them with their school improvement work. At the weekend I enjoy a variety of sports, particularly rugby, football and running, and can usually be found at a local Parkrun trying desperately to beat my PB (and usually failing!).



Secondly – Mr. White, our school's new Executive Headteacher. I will have overall responsibility for the performance of the school and will line manage Mr. Firmin, work closely with the school's governing body and the Local Authority. My time commitment is 1 day per week at the school. Again, this day will be flexible depending on our weekly agenda. I have been headteacher at Brompton-on-Swale CE Primary School for almost 12 years now, working previously in Darlington for 6 years and starting my career at Leeming RAF Community Primary School, where I enjoyed 5½ years of wide-ranging teaching experience. In 2013 I founded the Swaledale Teaching School Alliance, a collaborative group of 58 primary schools in the north of North Yorkshire. The organisation provides support for schools through a large team of experience and very capable teachers and leaders across our region in partnership with the Local Authority. We also train teachers and provide professional development for the whole of the school workforce. In my spare time you'll always find me taking part in some form of sport-related activity, whether that be playing football or cricket (I'm still clinging on desperately to my youth!) or coaching the next Lionel Messi or Joe Root wannabes!

We are both very excited by the prospect of working at Crakehall CE Primary School and are looking forward to working with you, the children and the staff. We appreciate that these new roles are new for all of us and we will need to learn how they will work in practice. From our perspective, we see Mr. Firmin's role as the 'traditional headteacher' with Mr. White working on some of the more strategic things, such as finance, staffing & HR, standards, liaison with external agencies etc. Therefore, if you feel that you need to speak to one of us, please direct your initial discussion to Mr. Firmin. As was the case last year, Miss Wagstaff will be the lead person in charge on the days that both Mr. Firmin and Mr. White are not in school.

Crakehall Church of England Primary School, The Green, Crakehall, Bedale, North Yorkshire, DL8 1HP

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In terms of communication, we like to try and do our bit for the environment as much as possible and therefore will try to use our text messaging service, email and school website to keep you regularly informed of key messages. School newsletters will be sent out as and when required, usually on a fortnightly or monthly basis.

We look forward to meeting you all over the coming weeks and getting to know the children as they settle into their new classes. Please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any queries or if you would simply like to introduce yourself.

Yours sincerely,

Mr. A Firmin
Associate Headteacher

Mr. M White
Executive Headteacher

Miss Wagstaff
Deputy Headteacher

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