

13 April 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am delighted to be able to write this, my first letter as the new Headteacher of Sandford St Martin's Primary School. The children and staff have made me very welcome and I feel very privileged to be part of this school community.

Since my appointment last term, I have visited the school several times and have been wowed by the atmosphere and the warm welcome I have received from pupils and staff alike. Mr Beveridge did a fantastic job and everyone associated with Sandford St Martin's has achieved great things. It is a privilege to be entrusted with the job of leading our school, continuing and building on this great work.

My aim this term is to spend time listening and talking to members of the school community, understanding everyone's hopes and aspirations for the future success of Sandford St Martin's Primary School. By working together, we can ensure that the pupils enjoy their time here, make excellent progress and leave school equipped for lifelong learning.

My expectations of the pupils, in terms of their achievement, attitudes to learning and behaviour, are very high. I expect all members of the school community to uphold the values of Learn, Love, Laugh as part of a caring Christian family. Your support in reinforcing high expectations is very much valued. As you're the most precious person in your child's life, it's really important that we work together to support each other in making sure your child gets the best education and experience possible.

My priority as Head Teacher is to ensure Sandford St Martin's Primary School continues on our journey to be an exceptional school where every child can achieve their full potential in their academic, creative, personal, physical, moral and spiritual development. My main aim will be to focus on ensuring that all children learn and progress exceptionally well and experience the highest quality teaching and learning where all children are included, nurtured and safe.

I know that a new Headteacher is a big change for a school, so I would like to introduce myself properly. On a personal note, I am married to Hefin and am mum to Holly who is 24 and Jack who is 21. I'm a bit of a drama queen at heart and love all things creative! I love nothing more than quality family time whether it is watching my favourite band, The Foo Fighters or riding the fastest rollercoasters at our favourite theme parks!

On a professional note, my passion for teaching started with my first teaching post 29 years ago! I've developed as an outstanding teacher and school leader in a range of contexts from inner city schools in London and Sunderland to a wonderful rural school in West Dorset which I had the privilege of leading successfully for 12 years. I love to teach, inspire, motivate, challenge and celebrate children's learning and I look forward to be able to continue this passion as headteacher at Sandford St Martin's Primary School.

I believe that every child can do amazing things and it's our job to help make this potential a reality – together.

I look forward to seeing you soon as we embark on this next chapter.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Emma Roberts