

# Drifffield Junior School



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Dear Parents,

## Classes for September 2018

It's that time of year when we start thinking ahead to September, deciding where teachers will be placed and which classes they will be teaching. Each year we consider carefully whether we keep classes as they are or whether we mix children up into new classes; last year we mixed up the year 5s as they entered year 6 but kept years 3 and 4 the same (apart from a couple of tweaks as agreed with parents).

For September 2018 we very much feel that many classes are not as balanced as we would like them to be, nor as we had hoped they would be. By balance I mean a sensible mixture of pupils based upon gender, term of birth, academic attainment, Special Educational Needs and behaviour.

Therefore, to ensure that all children have the best chance of success in their next year group, we are going to re-group the children based upon a more even spread of the factors mentioned above. We will, of course, consider who children are good 'working friends' with, so that they know they will be in the classroom with someone they like and work well with. ***Please note, we will NOT be asking the children who they want to be with.***

We know there are some children who, for whatever reason, are best placed away from certain other children. These reasons have been discussed with parents previously and will obviously be factored in to our groupings but **please may I ask that those parents contact me**, either via the school email ([drifffield.juniors@eastriding.gov.uk](mailto:drifffield.juniors@eastriding.gov.uk)) or by letter, with a written reminder of who their child is best separated from and why (briefly). This way we will have a better chance of getting the classes as well balanced as we can. Obviously it may not be 100% possible to avoid certain children being placed in the same class together but we will do our very best.

## Year 3 to year 4

I would also like to inform our current year 3 parents that the children will be placed in four classes in year 4, rather than five as they are now. The year 3 classes are very small (luxuriously so) at present and it is not financially viable to maintain classes of this size with the school budget issues that all schools are facing. We will, of course, ensure that the children receive our usual high levels of teaching assistant support.

## All children in years 3 to 5

Your child will spend the majority of the day in their new classroom with their new teacher on Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> July. That same evening straight after school until 4.15pm is the opportunity for you, if you wish to, to meet your child on the playground, pop and see which classroom he/she will be in and say hello to the teacher. That way you are able to put a face to a name!

Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs L Laird  
Headteacher

