



# Timu Academy Trust

Together Everyone Achieves More

September 2016

## **Staffing September 2016**

**Bobbing**—We said goodbye to Mr Waitt who has returned to work in the travel industry and Miss Harris who moved to a school in West Malling. We wish them good luck.

**Iwade**—We said goodbye to Mrs Davies whose family moved to Suffolk, Mrs Wright our SENCO who had been on maternity leave after having her second child, and Jim Fisher our site manager who retired.

Our new staff joining us this September are -

Mr Rowbottom our senior caretaker and Mr Rose assistant caretaker

Mr Turner—minibus driver Mr Watson - road crossing patrol (Iwade)

Iwade Teachers Miss Gough (year 2), Mrs Macken (year 6) and Mr Banning (year 3)

Teaching assistants for SEN pupils at Bobbing—Miss Carter and Mrs Ascheri

Teaching assistants for SEN pupils at Iwade—Mrs Bootes, Miss Gillingham, Mrs Hawks, and Mrs Earle

We also wish good luck to all staff who have moved schools within the Timu Trust for this school year—Mrs Bunning, Mrs Robinson, Mrs Wigglesworth, Miss Webb, Mrs Knight, Mrs Barnett, Mrs Gilmour and Mrs Wraight.

## **Assertive Mentoring System**

As you know we were working with a new assessment system last year. Our pupils make steps of progress across the year and by year end we expect them to reach the new age expected standard in reading, writing and in maths (these standards can be found on our website). The new standards are much higher than before and there can be no comparison between these and the old levels.

You received 5 reports across the year telling you about your child's progress in school. As part of the process all pupils have meetings with teachers where these reports are discussed. This ensures the pupils know what they need to do to make improvements and feel part of the process. This year we will be making some small changes.

This year Parents will now receive a report at the end of terms 2, 4 and 6. We will be working to further improve the quality and consistency of the one to one meetings between teachers and pupils and improved consistency by teachers using the colour codes. We will continue to arrange both parent teacher meetings and open afternoons where you can see your child's work and discuss their progress with the staff.

## **Challenge Champion**

Each week our schools have a Challenge Champion assembly where a pupil's achievements are celebrated. This will continue this year. We will be putting specific challenge into each lesson this year so it will be clearer to the pupils, staff and parents how this award is chosen. We will be looking for pupils who show a real positive attitude to hard work, who understand that learning something new is tough and often painful but who do not shy away from the task.

## **Team Points**

Team points can be awarded by any member of staff. We are changing how they are recorded so that the points are accurately counted at the end of the week. Points will be in recognition of any individual who demonstrates that "Together Everyone Achieves More" and will be for the team rather than the individual. The winning team each week will be celebrated in the weekly assembly.

## **After School Clubs**

We will soon be sending out club information for term 1. If the club list is full when you access the site and your child would still like to be offered a place please ask at the office to be added to a waiting list. On occasions we are able to offer additional clubs to meet with demand for our most popular clubs. We have kept the cost at £1.25 a session.

**Designated Safeguarding Leads :**

Mrs Hudson—Bobbing

Mrs C Mariner—Iwade

Mrs Smith

Mr Powell

Mrs Stewart

If you are worried about a child -

NSPCC Helpline 0808 800 5000 (you can remain anonymous)

**Inclusion Team**

Mrs Smith Inclusion lead

Mrs Gilmour Special Needs Co-ordinator

Mrs Croucher EYFS / KS1 SEN Assistant

Mrs Harris KS2 SEN Assistant

**Senior Staff at TIMU****Executive Principal**

Mrs K Ware

**Bobbing Village School Principal**

Mrs L Hudson

**Iwade School Principal**

Mrs C Mariner

**Assistant Principal (Inclusion/Numeracy)**

Mrs A Smith

**Assistant Principal (Teaching & Learning/English)**

Mrs K Stewart

**Teaching and Learning Lead Advisor yrs 3 and 4**

Mr A Powell

**Teaching and Learning Advisor Reception year**

Mr T Harwood

**Teaching and Learning Advisor year 1**

Miss Wright

**Teaching and Learning Advisor year 2**

Mrs Knight

**Teaching and Learning Advisor year 5**

Mrs Norris

**Teaching and Learning Advisor year 6**

Miss Fisher

**Our School Sites -**

In the summer holidays we have had lots of work done at both schools. Both entrance areas have a wonderful photograph depicting our logo with actual children. It reminds us everyday of our key message that "Together Everyone Achieves More".

New fences and gates have been installed at both schools to improve security.

We are now in the new building at Iwade. We are about to have work done to the reception playground at a cost of over 35k. New tables and chairs adorn many classrooms as do new smart boards. The play equipment at Bobbing has been completely refurbished and the climbing frames have been repositioned at Iwade.

Both schools have invested in Kindles so reading in class uses the new technology.

**Attendance**

Following a court case regarding holidays taken in term time there have been some changes. Schools will still only authorise holidays that fit the criteria for "exceptional circumstances". This means that most requests will be not be agreed by the school although we will consider each request on a case-by-case basis. We try to apply a common sense approach. When a holiday is not authorised and you still take the holiday the school has to inform the local authority, who decide whether to impose a fine of £60 for each parent. They will usually do this if the child's attendance is less than 90%. That is how the law stands at the moment. Changes may well follow during this school year. If you do not pay the fine it quickly increases to £120, so please take note of this. The money from fines does not come to the school.

There is obviously a big discussion to be had on this topic and parents views differ enormously, as do those of school teachers.

We really believe that holidays taken in term time should be taken few and far between. We prefer any holiday to be less than a week as two weeks puts annual attendance at 90% before any illness gets taken into account. Pupils with an attendance rate of less than 90% are tracked by the authority as persistent absentees.

Our schools both have outstanding attendance figures. We all wish them to remain at this for now and the future.