



The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School
Headteacher: Mrs S.A. Finney

22nd July 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I am delighted to be writing to you as the newly appointed Executive Head Teacher of the Federation of Antrobus St Mark's and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary Schools and I am very much looking forward to meeting you all in September. I would like to take this opportunity to share with you some information about myself.

Throughout my 22 years working in primary education, I have always believed that schools should place each unique child at the centre of their vision and provide a loving and caring ethos based on Christian values. This is the foundation of my personal philosophy and is at the heart of all that I do. I am looking forward to getting to know each child and to learn about their interests, hopes and dreams. I believe that by providing a nurturing environment and an engaging curriculum for all pupils we can set them on a path that helps those dreams become a reality.

I have worked across the entire primary age range from Reception to Year Six in different church school settings. Most recently I have been the Head Teacher of a small, rural Church School in Cheshire. I love my job and find it extremely rewarding. I have a special affinity for small Church schools as I feel they provide a unique opportunity to develop strong connections and trust between staff, children and families. I firmly believe that these schools can offer the chance to really 'see' and nurture each child and this can form a strong foundation for positive relationships that enable all involved to grow and learn.

I am excited to be working with clearly dedicated and successful staff who strive to create a positive learning environment for all children. The comments from the stakeholder letter made it clear to me that their values resonate strongly with my own values and beliefs. Throughout the recruitment process, it was also clear to me that the Federation benefits from purposeful and committed governors who work enthusiastically to support both schools. I look forward to working alongside staff and governors to build upon the existing strong foundations of the Federation. I recognise the importance of the sense of tradition and history that is an integral part of each school's community and I commit to maintaining this ethos.

My vision for the Federation is that both schools will work together to provide optimum academic achievement whilst also instilling in pupils a sense of confidence in their own gifts, talents and abilities. I hope to create a culture and ethos which empowers pupils to believe they can be agents of change and which also gives them a deep sense of connection to God, to their community and to their potential in the wider world. With this vision in mind, my guiding principles are:

- To ensure that the schools maintain an inspirational environment to foster a love of learning and encourage exemplary behaviour from all pupils.
- To provide opportunities for children to develop resilience, confidence and self-belief.
- To promote a love of reading through the use of quality texts and engaging teaching methods to ensure all pupils have the skills necessary to unlock the magic of books and poetry.

- To support all children to develop a positive attitude to maths by nurturing their confidence and curiosity around the subject, to see it as an opportunity to investigate, be active and have fun.
- To foster the spirituality of all pupils and give them opportunities to experience awe and wonder to support their sense of connection to God.
- To make good use of the beautiful rural aspect and school grounds that both schools enjoy and to promote Learning Outside of the Classroom to support teaching and learning and to encourage a sense of stewardship for the natural world.
- To provide pupils with a variety of experiences and encounters with the wider world, to visit interesting places and have a range of visitors, to be inspired by music, art and the world around us.
- To ensure all pupils have a deep sense of connection to their community and feel empowered to act to bring about good in their world.

On a personal level, my home life is busy and rewarding. I live in Flintshire with my husband and our two teenage children. We enjoy walking our two dogs Ruby and Woody in the countryside. I love being outside and spending time trying to grow vegetables in our garden. I love to be creative and I enjoy music, theatre and travel.

You will find me committed to our schools and to working alongside our parents, families and community. I welcome your insight as to what is working well and also any suggestions that could further support our schools. I very much look forward to getting to know you all and to working together for the benefit of all our pupils.

Kind Regards

Mrs L Wainwright

