

19th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all safe and well.

As you may be aware, I was recently appointed as Head of School for Codsall Middle School. Having been at this school for more than 30 years (some parents, or even grandparents, may recognise me as Miss Etheridge), I am certainly heavily invested in the continued success of CMS and its pupils, so I am so proud and excited to be leading the school in moving forward.

From the pupils' point of view, little will change; as I was Assistant Head for some time, they are already used to seeing me around the school and other senior colleagues will be remaining in their roles. We plan to continue to work hard towards helping our pupils achieve well and become happy, well-rounded citizens. For parents and carers, I will be the point of contact for issues that need raising at the highest level on headofschool@codsall-middle.staffs.sch.uk, although, of course, the best route for most day to day issues will be to contact form tutors or pastoral staff in the first instance. All of these details are available on the website.

We are fortunate to be in a thriving school community where pupils, parents and staff work together to be as successful as we can. Pupils in our school learn in interesting and engaging lessons with enthusiastic teachers who are keen to keep learning themselves. This doesn't happen by accident and as we move forward, high quality teaching and learning will remain at the centre of everything we do.

It's also important that we help pupils recover from the impact of COVID. We will of course address pupils' academic needs – many measures are already in place, like remote tutoring, in-school small group interventions and wrap-around support – but we will continue to seek ways of adding to this provision. However, the impact of COVID on young people has been far wider than merely their learning. We are working hard to look after the wellbeing of our pupils and a strong, supportive relationship between school and home is vital in this. Do let us know if you feel that your child is struggling – our Pastoral Support Assistants (PSAs) are an excellent first point of contact in these circumstances.

Codsall Middle School

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Headteacher: Mr P J Bowers MAEd

As we move through the year, we are prioritising giving pupils a full range of enrichment opportunities and extra-curricular activities because we believe they will help pupils get back to 'normal' and improve their wellbeing. We have put residential visits, educational visits, music and sports clubs and in school events firmly back onto the calendar and we are delighted that so many pupils are benefitting from these. We would always ask parents to encourage their children to participate in some of the 'extras' because they get so much from them.

This week alone, alongside their lessons, pupils have been enthusiastically supporting Children in Need, taking part in a Readathon, practicing towards our Christmas Carol Concert, experiencing training to become mental health buddies, taking part in sporting competitions with skill and resilience, rehearsing for the mock trial competition, baking up a storm in baking club, playing French Chocco Lotto, attending clubs for geography, resistant materials, art, futsal, dodgeball, tennis, ukulele, keyboards, choir and band, as well as others. It's so wonderful for our school to be vibrant, lively and exciting again after the stresses of lockdown and we really look forward to creating more opportunities as the year moves on.

I hope you enjoy the build up to Christmas.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "KM Reade". The signature is written in a cursive style with a vertical line at the end.

Mrs K Reade
Head of School