

12 September 2007

Dear Parents and Carers,

Having now spent my first full week at Cage Green with the children and staff I thought I would write to fully introduce myself to you.

You may be aware that I am new to Headship and that the last time I worked for Kent County Council was in the late 1980s. I only started to teach in primary schools in 1989, having had an earlier career in the civil service. I became interested in the education of primary school children when my own children started school and I became a parent helper in their classes. As can happen, one thing led to another and I joined the PTA and eventually became a school Governor.

In 1988 an opportunity arose for me to teach part-time in a church school in Tower Hamlets and, as I had trained to teach in the early 70s, I decided to embark on a teaching career. I was full of enthusiasm once I got over the shock of teaching in Year 1 and Year 6 every week! After two years I then took a job at Balgowan Primary School in Beckenham, where I remained until July of this year. Over the years I was variously ICT, Design and Technology, Science, Maths and English subject leader and held a series of Senior Management positions including Assistant and Deputy Headteacher.

I have had a wonderful welcome from the staff, children and those parents and Governors I have met. I have been very impressed by the hard work, enthusiasm and commitment that the staff exhibit which is matched, or even surpassed, by the eager, happy children at the school. I know the school is held in high regard by the whole of the school community and the wider local population here in Tonbridge. The school has many strengths that I will, with the help of the whole school community, build upon in the months and years to come. I will wish to maintain the caring ethos and spirit of the school which I know is one of the features of the school that so impressed last year's Ofsted inspection team.

I am looking forward to meeting you in the next few months, perhaps in the playground, at parents' meetings or at one of the many events on our school calendar. I feel very privileged to be associated with this 'outstanding' school and wish all the children at the school a happy and successful academic year ahead.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs K Clarke,  
Headteacher