

## **Parents of Year 5 and Year 6 pupils 2010 / 2011**

Next year we are in the fortunate position of being able to maintain 4 teachers for Upper Key Stage 2 although currently we have three class groups, two in year 5 and one in year 4. After much discussion, we feel the fairest option is to create four similar sized classes of mixed year 5 and 6 pupils.

There will be approximately fifteen year 6 and nine year 5 in each class. This will give all pupils more opportunities to work with other children rather than staying with the same cohort for another year. In compiling the class lists staff will examine:

- Ability groupings to ensure fair mix in each class
- Friendship groups
- Personalities, attitudes and behaviour
- Gender mix

The children will be following our revised planning that allows for skills development through a two year rotation of topics or themes.

The school has moved significantly towards personalised learning and child led interests. The skills need to be continually improved at each child's stage of development but through a variety of contextual themes. Smaller classes will allow staff more time to address the differing needs of the children.

Mixed age group classes demand more differentiation and staff will target this in their planning. Pupils will still be set for Mathematics within their respective age groups but language and all other subjects will be covered through the thematic approach. Discrete subject teaching will be used for specific aspects that do not link naturally to the chosen themes.

Year 6 pupils will continue their transition programme with Stanwell and it is hoped that year 5 will have some input next year as this has been requested by the head teachers of the Primary Schools that feed into Stanwell.

Year 6 pupils will continue to be given responsibility roles and house captains will come from within the year 6 cohort.

There will be a very strong team of teachers working in Upper Key Stage 2 and I'm sure parents will be encouraged by the progress of the pupils.

The composition of classes takes us hours of analysis and therefore we ask that you respect our professional judgement.

There will be class changeovers on Monday 12<sup>th</sup> July when children will meet their new class members.

