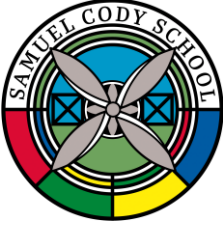


# **Samuel Cody School**



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Headteacher: Mrs S Chinnappa BSc M.Ed. NPQH

14<sup>th</sup> September 2023

## **Welcome back letter – Primary and Secondary– 14th September 2023**

Dear Parents/Carers

I am writing to you at the end of a very busy first fortnight. Our pupils in primary and our students in secondary have come back to school full of tales of their summer. It has been a lively first week back and we have welcomed over sixty new children across all phases and contexts. If you are a parent or carer who is new to Samuel Cody School, please familiarise yourselves with our website and the policies on it including the Parent/Carers Code of Conduct and Keeping Children Safe in Education 2023. These policies contain important information about how to raise concerns about a child and who to go to in the first instance.

One of the most important message we try to instil in our children while they are at Samuel Cody is to be kind to others. Can I please ask all parents and carers to revisit this theme this weekend to help us with this message.

We have welcomed this year, three new teaching staff to Samuel Cody. Mr Strain is our new Assistant Headteacher with responsibility for primary. He is settling in well and I know that some of you have met him already. We have a new English teacher as well. Mrs Subhan comes to us with lots of experience with teaching children with ASD and dyslexia. She is also a tutor and is getting to know our students and their strengths and areas for development in English. Finally, we have Miss Compton, our brand new Science teacher. Miss Compton is an early career teacher and undertook her teacher training placement here with us last year. We are very lucky to have found these additions to our team and I am sure that you will join me in wishing them the best in their new roles.

Today is National First Aid Day, and our secondary students are undertaking First Aid Awareness Training. This is not a qualification to enable them to administer first aid, but we believe it is useful to know how to help in a situation needing a first aid intervention. Students have been taught how to put someone in the recovery position, make a call to the emergency services, as well as how to deal with cuts, burns and bruises. They have had immense fun training on the defibrillator and CPR simulators. Each student will receive a certificate of attendance.

We will be restarting after school clubs in secondary on Tuesdays and Thursdays in the next two weeks. Mr Tyreman will be sending out options and timings later this week. The Primary department will be in touch soon with details of their offer which will start after half term.

This year in the secondary school, we have changed our 7 lesson day to a 6 lesson day. This was done after feedback from staff and students. Lessons are slightly longer to enable a better transition between different subjects. We are hoping that less transitions in the day will cause less tiredness and higher engagement. The same amount of time is still given to all subjects over the course of the week, and the curriculum is as wide as it has always been, with the addition of time with tutors to undertake some class reading every day. Our Off-site enrichment activity this year is swimming. All key stage 3 year groups will get to attend on a Wednesday afternoon. Our Enrichment curriculum is going ahead as usual. You will be given more information when it is time for your child to attend these off-site sessions.

This coming year we again have some residential activities planned for years 8 to 11, with an overnight sleepover for year 7's. These include a trip to Avon Tyrell in the new Forest, one to Shanklin on the Isle of Wight and another to Lulworth Cove in Dorset. The Year 11's will participate in a transition week in November. Information will be available later in the year.

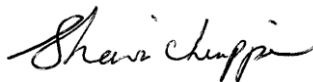
This year all primary and secondary students will have two parents' evenings, one in the autumn term and one in the spring term. Years R to 10 will then receive end of year reports in July. Annual reviews of EHCP's will run throughout the year. Please ensure that you remember to send in your views for the annual review when asked.

Year group coffee mornings will be held throughout the year in both primary and secondary. Please keep an eye out for the invite and let us know if you will be attending to help us with catering. We are holding a coffee morning in aid of MacMillan on September 29<sup>th</sup> between 11 and 12 noon. Please feel free to drop in and have a coffee, piece of cake and a chat, all in aid of charity.

Lastly I would like to apologise again for the on-going problems with Hampshire transport. Whilst this is not in our control, I am aware that many of you have had issues and some of our new students have not been allocated places yet. We try and do all that we can to support in instances such as these, but hopefully it will start to improve. If you are still having problems please call the school office and let them know.

Thank you for your on-going support and I hope to meet you in school soon.

Yours Sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Shari Chinnappa'.

Mrs S Chinnappa  
Headteacher  
Samuel Cody School