



The Featherstone Academy

22 July 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

As this academic year comes to a close, it is an honour to write to you to introduce myself as the new Principal of The Featherstone Academy from the beginning of the new school year. As you are aware, Mr Wesley Bush is moving to become the new Headteacher at Castleford Academy. Featherstone's loss is Castleford's gain. On behalf of the school and the community I would like to acknowledge the amazing work that he has done over the last four years in ensuring that students of Featherstone are launched into their next steps with the skills and qualifications that they require in order to achieve their aspirations. I am looking forward to continuing Featherstone's progress and providing an excellent education for the young people of the community.

At the end of every year we say goodbye to some staff as they move on with their careers. We thank all those who depart and have contributed so much to school life. Mr Miller is leaving the academy and is being replaced as Deputy Headteacher by Ms Roberts who joins us from Brayton Academy. There are two new members of staff in PE: Mrs Holdsworth and Mr Callum, and Mr Benton is leaving to work in one of our other academies. Miss Claringbold will be leaving to run a larger department at Brayton Academy and we welcome Mrs Champagnon to our French department. Mr Barker is retiring this year and Ms Beckett will be joining us in Geography along with Mr Evans who will be joining us to teach Music to KS3 students. Mrs Dean will also be leaving to take up an Assistant Headteacher role at Rodillian Academy and we welcome Mrs Close as Head of Maths. Mrs Hall is also retiring this year, Mrs Sharp will be the new face on reception when you come into the academy.

This has been a very challenging year in many ways and we hope that in September we will return to some sort of normality. In line with Government guidance students have to receive two lateral flow tests in school before they can return to classes in the new term, therefore there will be a staggered start for each year group. A schedule is currently being finalised and details will be sent to you via Edulink.

I hope that you have a safe and happy summer and I look forward to meeting and working with you in September.

Yours faithfully

Diana Townshend