

04/01/2022

Dear parents,

A HAPPY NEW YEAR to you, and I hope you have had a restful and healthy holiday.

At last, I am in a position to let you know who will be looking after Stoke Row School until Charlotte's return in June.

Steph Fawdry, the Head of RAF Benson Primary School and her deputy head, Kate Galvin will share the responsibility between them. Both women are highly experienced, and I feel confident that during their brief tenure they will serve you, your children and the school well.

Kate will be at the school every morning, and Steph will mainly take care of the administration, but both are available whenever you might need to talk to them about any concerns you might have regarding your children's education and wellbeing. Both have been working closely with Gillian and I hope the transition will be as seamless as possible. Steph and Kate will continue to work at RAF Benson but will be spending a total of 4 days a week at Stoke Row (the same number of days as Charlotte).

I realise that this information comes to you very much at the last moment, and that some of you may have found this uncertainty upsetting. I apologise for this, but it has been complicated to arrange

> Stoke Row CE Primary School School Lane, Stoke Row Henley-on-Thames Oxfordshire RG9 5QS

Acting Headteachers – Steph Fawdry/Kate Galvin

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new heads for such a short period of time, and this process was made even more complicated by the interruption of Christmas and the New Year. The final ratification of this arrangement only took place at an Emergency Governors' meeting at RAF Benson yesterday evening. The governors at RAF Benson needed to sign off on the arrangements and requested there was no announcement made until they had done so, and until the staff and pupils at RAF Benson had been told. This is happening this morning. But I believe that once you have got to know Steph and Kate, you will consider that it was worth the wait.

Other good news is that Emma Hughes is sufficiently recovered that she is going to resume her SENCO role for two half days a week. Initially this work will be done from home I know we will all be happy to have her back.

I hope the return to school goes well for you and your children, and if there is any more information you would like from me, please don't hesitate to contact me. I am sure that Steph and Kate will be in touch with you all shortly.

With kind regards,

Elizabeth Clough
Chair of the Governors

Stoke Row CE Primary School

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