



Harrietsham Church of England Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs Jackie Chambers
Deputy: Mrs Samantha Fenner
Chair of Governors: Mrs Rebecca Emson



Nurtured We Flourish

☎ 01622 859261

Email: office@harrietsham.kent.sch.uk

Website: www.harrietsham.kent.sch.uk

13th September 2026

Dear Families of Robins Class,

A Huge "Thank You":

I wanted to thank you all for being so patient and supportive regarding the situation with your children's teacher last week. The situation came as a shock to us all, and it has been reassuring to hear and witness the trust that you have placed in us as a school to resolve the situation for your children. We are truly grateful for this.

I also wanted to say how proud I am of your children. Mrs Finch and Mrs Allitt have thoroughly enjoyed their week with the class. The children have been amazing – establishing new routines, getting to grips with Year 3 learning and really working as a team.

New Teacher – Mrs Cummins:



I am pleased to say that I observed Mrs Cummins teaching the class on Friday and have appointed her as temporary class teacher until at least the end of Term 2. Mrs Cummins brings many years of teaching experience. She has previously been a headteacher and has most recently established two specialist resource provisions for a trust in Ashford. She has a lovely, warm manner with the children and at the end of her observed lesson, the children asked her to stay. I spoke with the children after the lesson and they all remarked that she was kind and that they liked her enthusiasm when teaching. Based on what I observed, and the children's overwhelmingly positive response to her, I am confident that Mrs Cummins will be an excellent fit for Robins Class.

Mrs Cummins will join the school on Wednesday 16th September but will not start teaching the class until Monday 21st September. Her three days next week will be spent having a thorough induction, spending time planning with Miss Thorne, having a handover from Miss Frazier and getting to know the children. For consistency for the children, Mrs Finch will teach them next week. Mrs Allitt will remain with the class as their LSA until Ms Thurston returns to school and Mrs Hancock will continue to be available in the mornings to help settle the class.

I would also like to make you aware that Mrs Cummins has a pre-booked holiday during the week before the October half-term break. We appreciate that this is not ideal; however, the holiday was arranged and paid for before her appointment. Mrs Finch will therefore teach the class during the week beginning Monday 19th October.

Meet the Teacher:

We will be holding a very informal 'Meet the Teacher' event on Wednesday 16th September at 3:30pm. Please do pop along to Robins class to meet Mrs Cummins. We know it is important for you to get to know who will be teaching your children.



SCHOOL
MEMBER





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To Clarify:

To clarify who will be teaching your children...

- **Monday 14th September – Friday 18th September:** Mrs Finch and Mrs Allitt.
Mrs Cummins will be popping in and out from Wednesday 16th September to get to know the children.
- **Monday 21st September – Friday 16th October:** Mrs Cummins and Mrs Allitt (until Ms Thurston returns).
- **Monday 19th October – Friday 23rd October:** Mrs Finch and Mrs Allitt / Ms Thurston.
- **Monday 26th October – Friday 30th October:** **HALF TERM**
- **Monday 2nd November – Friday 18th December:** Mrs Cummins and Mrs Allitt / Ms Thurston.
- After Christmas, we will have either recruited a new permanent teacher for the class, or Mrs Cummins will remain as the class teacher.

Yours sincerely,

Jackie Chambers
Headteacher



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