



We would like to start this week's newsletter by welcoming Miss Kathryn Dillon to the staff here at Leigh on Mendip. Miss Dillon started this week in Swallow Class and has already settled in really well, getting to know all the pupils and staff. Please do feel free to introduce yourselves to her on the playground at the end of the day; parents of children in Swallow Class will get to meet Miss Dillon properly at parents' evenings at the end of March.

As you will know, Ms Stafford has reduced her timetable to three days a week at school during Terms 3 and 4 with Mrs Fletcher teaching on Thursdays and Fridays. We would now like to let you know that Ms Stafford has decided to leave school at the end of Term 4. I know this will be sad news for the whole school community; Ms Stafford has been such a dedicated, hard working and nurturing teacher at Leigh for many years and her presence in the class and around the school will be sorely missed. We hope to be able to give her a proper send off before Easter and will let you know more details at the beginning of Term 4.

This week we interviewed three candidates to become the new Starlings teacher. All of them had their own strengths they could bring to the school and we really enjoyed meeting them. At the end of the interview process, the committee decided to appoint Mrs Michelle Ball, an experienced teacher who taught a fantastic phonics lesson as part of her interview. Mrs Ball will pop in to school during Term 4 to meet everyone again and will then take up the post after the Easter holidays.

We were alerted to a potentially dangerous situation earlier in the week with a young child crossing the road by school unaccompanied. We would please request for the safety of the children, as well as road users, that all pupils are brought to the school gate. The roads around our school are not as busy as outside many schools, but it only takes one child crossing and one car travelling at speed for there to be an accident. Please can we also take this opportunity to remind you about driving safely around the village.

We are pleased to have negotiated a solution for swimming during Terms 3 and 4 which will see all the Starling Class have four sessions on top of the two they had at the beginning of January. This compromise means that the pool has enough space and staffing to give all of those children a chance to start learning to swim. Thank you to the parents of children in the class for your patience while we have been resolving the matter.

Our final newsletter of Term 3 will be sent out next week with the breakdown of results from the parent questionnaires and some of the areas we will be working on over the coming months based on your responses. It was clear from the questionnaires that we did receive that there were many parents interested in using a breakfast club and this is something that we are looking into trialling in the summer term. We will send out more details during Term 4.