

## Transition News

### KEY STAFF



**Mr Heath**  
Headteacher

I have been at John Spence as headteacher for over 7 years and a lot has happened during that time. I never fail to be amazed how quickly 5 years pass when I see Year 11 walking into the exam hall and remembering their first day and their first assembly with me. It perhaps seems strange to be writing to parents of Year 6 children who will be joining us in September about Year 11 GCSEs, but that is the ultimate destination for your child once they join us, but be reassured that during that time they will receive a wealth of opportunities to help them thrive in all aspects of their education and wider lives. You may well know that I will be leaving John Spence at the end of this year, but I am delighted to share that my successor has been appointed. Katie Marshall has an exceptional reputation as Headteacher at The John Keats Academy in Enfield. Originally from Whitley Bay, Katie wants to return to the North East and selected John Spence as the school for her. She is an excellent appointment and I know that she will continue to move the school forwards.

I am proud of our provision and know that those children who attend school every day and seize all the opportunities available to them perform exceptionally well and develop the attributes that are needed to be Fit for Life. We want your children to be skilled, resilient and considerate citizens when they leave us and move onto the next stage of their education.

I appreciate that transition to secondary school is both an exciting and anxious time for both children and their parents, but we have an expert team who will help to make the process as smooth as possible. I would urge you to contact the school if you have any questions or are unsure of anything, however small, so that we can put your mind at rest and help to make the experience of joining John Spence a wholly positive one.

### NEWS:

We hope you had a lovely Easter break and are starting to feel excited about joining secondary school. Between now and the end of the school year, we will be sending out regular "Transition Flyers", which will include a little information about life at John Spence. The flyers will also include any tasks we would like you to complete.

### TO DO:

Contact us if you have any questions or concerns about transition following the welcome evening.

Reminder of key dates:

- Transition day (Tuesday 30th June)
- Form class allocation (Thursday 2nd July)
- Uniform pop up shop (Saturday 13th June, School Canteen)