



HIMBLETON CE FIRST SCHOOL AND NURSERY
NEIGHT HILL
HIMBLETON
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EXECUTIVE HEADTEACHER: Mr S Payne

Hello from Mr Payne!

Tuesday 11th September

Dear Parents / Carers,

A very warm welcome to the start of the term from me, Mr Payne.

As you may or may not know I started my time here at Himbleton CE First School last week and I've already been lucky enough to meet many of you on the playground when some of you drop your children off in the mornings. I need to say a big thank you to all of the staff, parents and most importantly the children, who have given me such a warm, heart felt welcome. You can really feel the family atmosphere the minute you step on to the school grounds, and that is a credit to the staff, pupils and the whole church-school community.

Obviously I'm new here, but my initial impressions are really positive. You all know about the school grounds and they are indeed truly amazing. What's even better though is that the staff utilize the outdoor space for learning at every opportunity. I have talked to a few parents about why they send their child to Himbleton and they echo all that I've said really – wonderful grounds and a really caring school.

I do also have to say that the standards at Himbleton are high too. Last year all but one child achieved 'Good Level of Development' in Early Years, all of the children in Year 1 passed the Phonics Test and in Year 2, almost half the children achieved 'greater depth' in both Reading and Maths. So as an outsider coming in the picture of teaching is good too.

In terms of my own ethos I am a great believer in the idea of schools being happy places for children where they excited about learning. Simple really, but there's a lot of hard work that goes on behind the scenes to get there. That work is already going on at Himbleton because the staff, governors, church and local community really care about their school and the children that belong to it.

I look forward to working with you and your children in the months and years to come.

Mr Payne