

KAT/jr

19 March 2024

Dear Parent/Guardian



Hello, my name is Mrs Thomas and I am part of the Senior Leadership Team here at Wildern School. My role as Assistant Headteacher enables me to oversee the Pastoral Team at Wildern alongside Mr Chance, Deputy Headteacher and Miss Jones, Assistant Headteacher.

I am incredibly lucky at how varied my role is at Wildern and a particular aspect that I love is leading on the Year 6 Transition to Wildern. From my initial visits to each primary school, where I field their many questions and ease any worries, to the amazing moment they walk into Wildern, looking smart in their new uniform to begin their journey with us. To be involved in this significant step in their lives is a wonderful experience.

I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting our 'Class of 2029' last week as I visited all our feeder schools and introduced myself to the Year 6s. I also look forward to meeting those from our non-feeders in April. The Year 6s are understandably curious about Wildern and have been bursting with excitement about the next stage of their education. Ensuring your child has a smooth transition from Primary to Secondary is very important to me. My own son and step daughter have been through this transition so I hope that I have been able to reassure your child that although it is expected to feel nervous, it is also a fabulous opportunity to make new friends and learn lots of new skills.

I am also a Senior Mental Health Lead and I regularly talk in assemblies about the importance of well-being and positive mental health amongst our students. We are determined to promote and raise awareness of this key issue in the lives of our young people and help them to develop the skills they need to navigate this now and later on in their lives and importantly to be kind to each other. As part of this, we have worked hard to raise the awareness of places our students can access support and have helped create the [Wildern Wellbeing Hub](#) on our website where our students can access a vast amount of external support. We also have our #talk2us form where students can tell us they need support easily without having to find an adult.

Ensuring your child will be supported at Wildern during times of need is very important to me and we have built a wide range of support for students, through our work with external outside agencies and drawing on a variety of networks to put this support in quickly. If there is ever a need to talk to us about your child's wellbeing or mental health please be reassured that we will be here to help and support. Ultimately Wildern will be your child's school and I look forward to working alongside you and your children to make it the best experience for them it can be.

Yours faithfully

Mrs K Thomas  
**Assistant Headteacher**