



# Patcham Junior School

*Be curious not judgemental*

HARDWORKING  
ENERGETIC TALENTED

COMMUNITY RESILIENT  
HONEST WHOLESOME

DYSLEXIA AUTISM MENTAL HEALTH ADHD SPEECH & LANGUAGE CEREBRAL PALSY

## Pupil Update by Emma, Year Five

I am in Year Five and I most likely have autism. I have an appointment next month to find out. I hope I do because some of the greatest people have had special needs; like Albert Einstein who was autistic. What is special about me is that I adore Guinea Pigs and I have two of my own called Basil and Parsley. I also really like swings; they make me feel like I am flying like a superhero.

I like this school because there are so many special and kind teachers who know how to help. They have had some very good training.

## Spring 2023

### SENCO Update-Suzanne Spencer-Smith

Welcome to the first SEN Newsletter!

Having worked in Surrey, Thailand, East Sussex and London, I started at Patcham Juniors as a supply teacher seventeen years ago and became the SENCO ten years ago. I feel very fortunate to love my job all these years later.

Currently, we have sixty-one pupils on the SEN register who we all look after. Our aim is to send a SEN Newsletter once a term so please let me know if there is anything you'd like us to include or if you'd like to contribute.

A big thank you to Lisa Simpson for this wonderful design.

### What's Been Happening in School?

Last term our Family Support Teacher for Autism, Mandy Leahy, led a workshop about Executive Functioning. It was focused for parents and carers whose children have been identified or who are on the pathway of Autism. Despite this being held on a Monday morning we had over twenty people in attendance!

"Gosh. How lovely to know the morning routine of getting out of the house is not unique to me! Thank you for putting this on. Really informative session and nice to be amongst others in a similar situation."  
(Year Five parent)

### The Learning Mentor Team:

The Learning Mentor Team supports children across the school for several reasons including SEN.

Scarlett O'Rourke, Mandy Crisfield and Neil Connolly work from the wonderful nurture room which offers a comforting space and a range of sensory activities.

This term, we are focusing on improving our sensory space and have taken feedback from the pupils on how best to meet their needs.

### SEN Governor's Update-Henrietta Pike

Having just completed my first year as Governor with SEN link, my eyes have been opened to the work the SEN team are involved with – not only within the school but collaborations with other schools and specialists throughout our city. Being a parent of a child with SEN, I know how important your role is to be your child's biggest advocate through their school journey. Our SEN community is important to us all and with fresh eyes this Newsletter was born! An opportunity to share updates and strengthen communication, with our children at the core.

Please let us know if you would like to contribute to next term's Newsletter!

INSPIRATIONAL EMPOWERING JOYOUS HAPPINESS CURIOSITY TRUST INCLUSIVE WE CAN DO IT ATTITUDE