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Believe Grow Achieve

Welcome Back – September 2026

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils,

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable summer break. We are very much looking forward to welcoming the children back to school on **Wednesday 9th September**.

It has been another summer of extensive work across our school site with a number of projects completed or getting underway.

The third and final phase of our fencing work has now been completed with new fencing installed around the entire school perimeter, the Early Years area and the car park. This marks the completion of a project that has taken place over several months and has significantly improved the security of our site.

We have also had new fire and security doors installed on the corridor connecting our KS1 and KS2 buildings. There are still a small number of snagging works to be completed, but the main installation is now finished.

Our After School Club has also had an update, with new carpet fitted throughout and changes made to how the provision is organised and set up. I'm sure families who regularly use After School Club will recognise the impact of the changes when they return. Special thanks go to Mrs Wallace for her vision for the space and for the time and effort she has put into bringing the changes together over the summer.

Making the Most of Our School Building

One of the challenges we face as our pupil numbers reduce and we move to fewer classes is making sure that we continue to use the space available to us effectively, rather than allowing areas of the school to become forgotten or tired. This summer has given us an opportunity to begin rethinking some of those spaces and how they can better support children across the school.

Work has begun on transforming Mrs Stanford's former classroom into our new school library. A new carpet has been fitted and Mr Jackson has been very busy over the summer assembling our new shelving. We are still awaiting a few deliveries and have plenty of work to do auditing and updating our book collection before we can have a grand opening, but we're really excited to see this project getting underway.

We also have a brand new home for our ELSA provision which will now be based in Mrs France's former classroom at the far end of the KS2 building. Mrs Scott (with some help from her husband!) has been incredibly busy over the summer transforming the room into a calm and engaging space. It will be used for ELSA interventions and wider wellbeing support for children across the school.

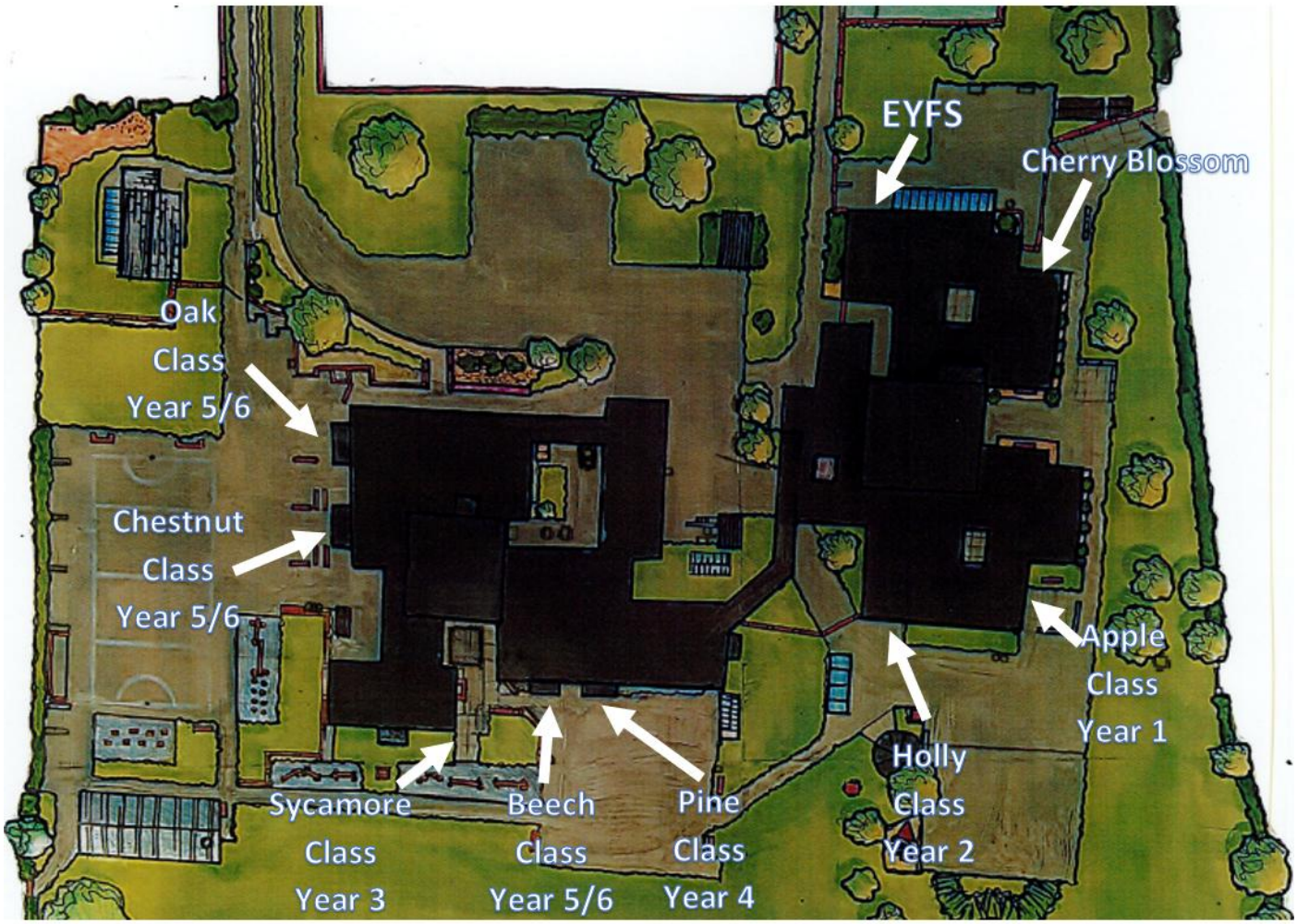
As always, I also want to thank the staff who have given up time during their summer to come into school and help make sure classrooms and other areas are ready for the children's return.

Staff training days
Staff will be back in school on Monday and Tuesday for our two training days. The two days will focus on safeguarding, our priorities for the year ahead, developing teaching and learning and supporting the needs and wellbeing of our pupils.

A reminder about gates and parking
Following our review of morning arrangements last September, I wanted to remind families of our gate times as we begin the new year:

- **School gates open at 8:25am.** Please do not arrive before this time as there are no staff supervising the playground.
- **Classroom doors open at 8:40am** and this is when school officially starts. Registers are opened at this point
- **Gates close promptly at 8:50am.** Children arriving after this time must enter school through the main reception and will be marked as late.
- For children attending **Breakfast Club**, the car park gate will be open from 7:40am.
- The **school car park is for staff use only**. Families who need to park at drop-off or collection can use the Rec Centre car park as part of our existing agreement. Please continue to park considerately around the school and be mindful of our neighbours.

Classroom locations for September
With changes to our class structure and some rooms being used differently this year, I know it may take a little while for everyone to get used to where classes are now located. The map below provides a reminder of where children should go when they return on Wednesday.



We're looking forward to welcoming everyone back and beginning another school year together. In particular, a very warm welcome to our new Reception children and families as they begin their time at Copmanthorpe Primary School.

Yours Sincerely

Luke Dancer
Headteacher