

15 February 2019

Dear Parent or Carer,

I am writing to advise you of some important updates to the staffing in Sport at Radnor House Sevenoaks.

You may already be aware that Chris Rock will be leaving the school at the end of this academic year to return to Thailand with his family. He has been a wonderful addition to the teaching team here at Radnor and I know we all wish him well as he embarks on the next phase of his career.

Taking over from Mr Rock will be Tom Butt who is currently Assistant Head of Sport and Head of Hockey at the prestigious Royal Hospital School in Suffolk. Tom has been instrumental in developing their Sports department over several years and was hand picked by us from almost 70 applications for this role. Prior to his tenure at Royal Hospital School, Mr Butt taught at Ashford School as Head of Boys Games and Head of House. This is a practically relevant experience for us as Ashford School went through a similar transition to co-ed and Mr Butt was central to that development.

In addition, we have also recently hired a new Head of Prep Sport. Ms Sara Hughes is currently Director of Sport at Derwent Lodge School which, along with Yardley Court, is part of the Schools at Somerhill Trust. Ms Hughes has been leading Sport at the school since 2014 and has in many ways transformed their provision. We are fortunate to attract someone of her pedigree and I am looking forward to watching Sport across the school continue to develop under the leadership of Mr Butt and Ms Hughes.

Finally, we are very sad to be losing Cassie Patten who is moving on from Radnor House for family reasons. As with Mr Rock, she very quickly established herself as the beating heart of swimming at Radnor and we are very grateful for everything she has done for the sport in a short space of time. Taking over from Ms Patten will be Helen Dudman who joins us after almost five years at St Michaels Prep School as Head of Swimming. Ms Dudman brings a vast amount of experience and knowledge to Radnor House having previously been Head Coach at Sevenoaks Swimming Club.

With a new team and additional investment planned for Sport, I hope you sense our ambition in this key area. As we have found with swimming, growing young men and women who can compete and win against bigger schools takes time. With vision and determination there is nothing stopping us and I am very excited to see the continued development of Sport here at Radnor over the years ahead.

Yours faithfully,



David Paton MA
Head

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