

Dear Students and Families of Class 5/6A,

Hi, my name is Krista Carpenter. I am absolutely thrilled to be joining the wonderful Learning Community at Upwey South Primary School.

Today you would have received a letter from the school stating that I will be the classroom teacher of Class 5/6A for 2024. I am writing this letter because I recognise that having a new teacher can raise different types of emotions within different people. Therefore, let me tell you a little bit about myself.

Next year will be my 16th year teaching primary school. I was lucky enough to work in the beautiful and unique environment at Mt Dandenong Primary School for many years after gaining my teaching degree. Being part of a small, tight knit community helped me understand the importance of creating and maintaining effective relationships with students, families, and the wider community. I hold a strong sense of community, and believe that making firm connections between home and school is essential for student learning success. After taking maternity leave to have my two amazing little girls, this year I have been teaching a Grade Five class at The Basin Primary School. Apart from teaching and spending time with family, I spend a great deal of my time playing, coaching, and umpiring netball.

I strive to create a safe and supportive learning environment for all students. Students need to feel supported in their learning, particularly when taking on new challenges. I pride myself on creating a positive space where students feel safe enough to take risks with their learning. I promote the fact that by making mistakes we are learning, and this is a valuable part of lifelong learning.

It's okay to feel a little bit nervous about transition, and it's also okay to feel excited. In fact, you might be feeling a mixture of both emotions, especially given you will be meeting a new teacher. Meeting each other will be a great day, and we will have the chance to get to know a little bit more about each other.

Effective Communication and partnerships are an integral part of a successful school community, and I am looking forward to partnering with you. 2024 is going to be a year full of fun activities and lots of learning opportunities.

For any parents/carers who may have the opportunity to visit the school on Tuesday 5th December, or Tuesday 12th December, I am at Upwey South Primary School all day on these dates. I will be available to say hello, both before and after school.

Kind Regards,

Krista Carpenter ©