**Hello new Year 4s!**

My name is Mr Thurgood, and I am very excited to tell you that I will be your teacher next year. Our class will be called Pine Class. We will be working with Mrs Chippett and Miss Harrington, who will be our Year 4 LSAs.

**About Me**

I have been a teacher for quite a while – next year will be my 20th year! I have taught all across Key Stage Two, but my favourite year groups have always been Years 4 and 5. I started teaching in Basildon, then moved to Chelmsford, then Leeds, and finally to Harlow. My hobbies include playing bass guitar with my band and spending time with my animals, two cats and two rabbits!

**Our Plans for Next Year**

We have a very busy and exciting time ahead, with a range of interesting topics to learn about. We will explore the process of making paintings, including developing ideas, sketching compositions and figures, and applying paint in various ways (and not just with brushes!) to create different visual effects. We will discover the materials used in sculpture, learn to plan using sketches, and create dynamic artworks. Additionally, we will examine work by different architects and designers.

In the Spring term, we will focus on learning how to save the rainforests! We will investigate the link between deforestation and climate change. The class will create climate change awareness videos, build insect homes, make bird feeders, and plant our own mini-forests and gardens. We will be actively promoting awareness of this important issue and so much more.

In the Summer term, our focus will shift to the Anglo-Saxons. By studying the broad social context of this historical period, we will learn about how these settlers fit into British history and explore how the past has shaped the world we live in today.

Throughout the whole year, we will cover many Maths and English topics, including reading and enjoying some fantastic books together.

I can't wait to get started and to get to know you all better. Have a wonderful summer holiday.I hope you return refreshed and ready for an exciting year in Year 4!

See you all soon,

Mr Thurgood

