

Welcome to School Year 2016/2017

My name is Joanne Siedhoff and I am your child's teacher for this school year. After graduating in 1990, I began my teaching career in Wales, UK. In 1997, I came to AFNORTH International School. I have had the opportunity of teaching in IY1, IY2, IY4 and IY6 and this is my second year teaching in IY5. I am here with my husband and two sons, ages 10 and 14.

My first goal with your child is to encourage him/her to enjoy school and be keen to learn. I will be working to create a safe and caring learning environment within the classroom where your child can develop skills – both academic and social. As the class teacher, I shall aim to meet the needs of each individual child. We are also fortunate to have the support of a full-time learning support assistant, Mrs Amanda Brown.

It is important that we develop and maintain good home/school communication to ensure that your child's day is happy and productive. Please feel free to call, email or write to me at any time with comments or concerns that you may have.

I look forward to a fun and successful year of teaching and learning with your child,

*Yours sincerely,
Joanne Siedhoff*

Helpful Hint!

Please mark your child's belongings to ensure that items can be easily returned to the rightful owner.

Bus Information:

Please ensure that your child carries a current bus pass at all times. We suggest that it is attached to your child's backpack. Do encourage your child to learn bus numbers and home address. If your child is not to ride the bus home and is being picked up, please send me a note.

Swimming

Our class has swimming lessons on Friday afternoons (Aug-Jan). Your child's swim kit should include a bathing suit, towel and a plastic bag in which to put his/her wet things. Also, please make sure that your child wears appropriate clothing and shoes for that day's weather as we will be walking to and from the pool.

Absences

If your child is absent, we would appreciate a phone call to the BC office. If your child will be missing school for a period of time, please contact myself and the BC office. If you are taking your child out of school during the day, you must sign them out at the BC office. Please do not collect your child from class without informing the office first.

Homework

Your child will have a homework package each week which will include activities linked to various curriculum areas. These tasks may be a review of work from the previous week or it may be in preparation for a future lesson in class. It may also include spelling words and basic math facts to practice (often using IT programs).

- **Homework folder sent home on Thursday each week (to be returned by the following Thursday)**
- **Daily reading for at least 15 minutes**

Homework is something that can be done in collaboration, encouraging discussion and fun. Please support your child's efforts and if you/your child have any concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Lunch

The IY5 lunchtime runs from 12:30-1:15. Your child may bring a packed lunch from home, use the automated lunch payment system or pay in cash with US dollars or euros. The weekly menu is available on the school website and in the BC newsletter. Be sure your child knows their PIN number please!

Autumn Term

Themes:

- Living things and their habitats
- States of Matter
- The Celts 500BC
- UK and Canada (location/place)
- Cooking and Nutrition

Spring Term

Themes:

- Animals including humans
- Sound
- The Roman Empire
- UK and Canada (human/physical)
- Materials and Structures

Summer Term

Themes:

- Electricity
- The Vikings
- Geography skills
- Control Technology

Weekly Specialist Subjects

To enable as many international opportunities as possible, the children will be working with our US teachers for specialist subjects. The children have been divided into groups and rotate their daily special throughout the week. Your child will join with children from the other IY5 classes for these lessons.

- Rotated daily specials (Art, Music, PE, Host Nation weekly; Guidance/STEM termly) 10:55-11:40
- Partner Languages (daily) 11:55-12:25
- Swimming – Friday (Aug-Jan)
- Library – Friday

Please note: your child may also check library books in/out on any day of the week.

**AFNORTH
International
School
2016/ 2017**

**Mrs Siedhoff
IY5**

Room D2.4



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BC Office **045-5278241**