Hello, Year 6 and future students of Hillcrest School! My name is Miss Laffan and I will be the form tutor for those of you joining Nightingale 5 (N5) in September.

“What is a form?!” I hear you ask. Form time is an opportunity for me to take the register, share news and announcements, and work with you on various activities outside of your other subjects. You’ll usually meet with me in the middle of the day, but it’s also likely that we will meet up before and after lessons on certain days.

A form is more than this, though. Your form will be the first group of people that you meet and work with at your new school, so I hope that you will all take the time to be friendly and supportive to one another.

As your form tutor, I’ll be here to support you as well, and chat to you about any worries or questions you may have. As a French teacher, I’ll also be teaching some of you in French classes. Ce sera génial!

So now, a few quick words about Hillcrest. If you’ve got older brothers and sisters, you may already know that the secondary school day is a bit different from primary school. You’ll usually have five lessons with five different teachers a day, and you may be doing subjects that you’ve not done before. But don’t worry! You will be at school before the other year groups, and we will use this time to help you settle into your new school life. Remember, as well, that you can always ask me if you’re confused about anything.

Whether you feel nervous or excited, remember that it’s OK to feel both! Just be sure to look after yourselves over the summer, read lots of books and come to school in September ready to learn some amazing things. Remember this, and you’ll all have a superb first year at Hillcrest!