



CHILTON FOLIAT PRIMARY SCHOOL

Church of England, Voluntary Aided
Stag Hill, Chilton Foliat, Hungerford RG17 0TF
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Headteacher:
Mrs Denise Weston

Wednesday 17th January, 2018

Dear Parents and Carers, Staff, and Chilton Club Childcare Team,

Mrs Weston's departure will be a shock, and the Governing Body is also saddened by her decision to leave our school and relocate to Devon. We greatly appreciate the extensive contribution she has made over the last five years. She will be truly missed.

On a positive note, with a wonderful learning culture and excellent teaching team in place, Mrs Weston leaves our school in a strong position. We also have a phenomenal support base of parents who contribute to the school in so many ways - the Ofsted inspector said that she had never seen such passionate parents before. The Governing Body is very keen to ensure that the handover process is as smooth as possible to protect all the hard work undertaken in recent years and we are very blessed that we have a fabulous whole school team who are committed to the educational journey and love of learning that our children are enjoying at the school.

As with any change, a Headteacher's departure brings about an element of uncertainty, but also opportunity. Experience has taught us that getting the right candidate is absolutely imperative. We are aiming to have a new permanent Headteacher in place as soon as possible, but want to assure you that we will not rush this process, and we will take more time if needed. Our priority is finding the best person to fit with our culture and high expectations, capable of driving the school plans forward, building on Mrs Weston's achievements, and taking Chilton Foliat Primary School to the next step – being recognised as the outstanding school that we all know it is.

Several interim leadership and management options are being explored to ensure the interim delivery of the school's plans. These measures will be overseen by the Governing Body, supported by Karen Walker (Advisory Headteacher), who has been involved with the school since prior to the recent Ofsted inspection, and is fully versed with the school's improvement plans. To ensure continuity, she too will provide ongoing input into the school's leadership moving forward.

Maintaining our culture of open and transparent communications is essential as these plans take shape and formalise, and we will keep in regular contact, sharing dates and times of update sessions in due course, when we look forward to providing more details to you. In the meantime, please do share with us any concerns that you may have, either with Mrs Weston or directly to Mrs Wolcough, Chair of Governors, via her email chair@chiltonfoliat.wilts.sch.uk.

As a closing note, we would like to remind you that we have a very capable group of amazing teachers, who have the best interests of the children at the heart of what they do. Please rest assured that our Governing Body is fully committed and will support the whole team to the best of our abilities.

We look forward to keeping you up to date on changes at the school and thank you for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Sam Wolcough
On Behalf of the Governing Body