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1st May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Yesterday was a very emotional day as you, together with the staff, children, governors and other members of our community helped me to celebrate my retirement after 11 wonderful years as headteacher of this very special school.

When I first arrived, I knew I was joining a community-focused school, but I could never have imagined just how much it would come to mean to me. Together, we have seen the school stabilise, grow, and flourish—and I feel incredibly proud to have been part of that journey.

I have never done this job alone. I have been supported every single day by an exceptional team of staff whose dedication, care, and commitment to our children have inspired me constantly. They are the heart of this school, and it has been an honour to work alongside them.

To you—thank you for your trust, your encouragement, and your partnership. Schools thrive when communities come together, and you have always been there for us.

The governors have stood alongside me over the years—offering both support and challenge in equal measure. Their guidance has been invaluable.

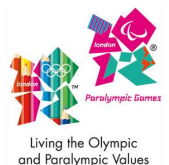
And of course, to the pupils—past and present—they are the reason we are all here. Their kindness, enthusiasm for learning and wonderful spirit have brought so much joy to my days. It has been a privilege to watch them grow.

As I step away, I do so with real confidence in the future of this school. I am absolutely secure in the new leadership, and I know that under Mrs Sheraton, our new Head of School, and her team, the school will continue to go from strength to strength and be taken to the next level.

Leaving is not easy, but I do so with a full heart and immense pride. Thank you all for allowing me to be such a big part of it.

I am completely overwhelmed by the generosity that you have shown me with the personal statements, thoughtful words in cards and carefully chosen gifts. The gift card will be used to buy myself a sewing machine, and when I re-read the books and cards and use my lovely gifts. I will cherish the memories of you all.

Thank you all.



Best wishes

Gillian

