



WIMBLEDON CHASE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Merton Hall Road
Wimbledon
London, SW19 3QB

T: +44 (0)20 8542 1413

E: wcps@wimbledonchase.merton.sch.uk

W: www.wimbledonchaseschool.co.uk

Headteacher: Jill Augustin BSc (Hons). NPQH, MA (ED), LLE

19 October 2020

Dear parents,

As we approach half term it has been lovely to see the happiness and excitement of the children on their return to school. A full school re-opening has been no easy endeavour. It has been achieved through the goodwill and support of the whole school community adhering to the restrictions placed on us all. The plan and procedures put in place by the school are working well and are now embedded, but with the flexibility to adapt as circumstances change.

It is now with regret that we write to inform you that Jill Augustin is stepping down as Headteacher at the end of 2020. Jill is writing to you separately to let you know of her decision.

Whilst we will be sad to lose Jill, we do understand that Covid-19 has brought with it a huge amount of reflection and change. It has caused many of us to re-evaluate our life choices.

Jill has been an excellent Headteacher and friend to the school in the time she has been with us. She has helped to ensure that the school is on both a secure footing and exciting future course in terms of teaching & learning standards, and behaviour, with a clear and positive ethos. Jill has helped to set and strengthen the school's vision and values, and to develop and enrich the curriculum, so that children and staff alike feel a strong sense of pride and connection with the school, as do we all in the wider community.

We will be conducting a thorough appointment process for a new Headteacher. For now, in order to continue Jill's excellent body of work and to help move the school into a new phase in its evolution, the Governing Body has asked Keith Ellis to take up the role of Acting Headteacher from January 2021. Mr Ellis has a strong track record of leading the school, having been Acting Headteacher during 2018 and 2019, a time of excellent school performance results. The Governing Body has the utmost confidence in Mr Ellis and we are very pleased that he has agreed to take on this role, obviously relishing the challenge to lead the school again.

Transforming lives through education, aspiration and inspiration



In his role as Acting Headteacher, Mr Ellis will be very ably supported by the three phase leads, Mrs Adamson, Mrs Newell and Mrs Ruffle, as Assistant Heads, and by Mrs Burnett in her continuing role as Deputy Head and Mrs Warwick, the Inclusion lead.

In addition, Jill will also be continuing to support the school from January onwards as a leadership consultant, on a remote basis. Mr Ellis and Senior Leadership will be able to draw on her skills and her extensive knowledge of the school as a source of expertise, which will ensure ongoing continuity and management of key areas, such as Covid-19 planning and delivering the school development plan. Jill will also continue to support the Governing Body over this period.

We will be looking to appoint a permanent Headteacher at an appropriate point in the future and will share our plans and seek both your views and those of staff and pupils as part of this process. We will keep you updated as matters progress.

For now, we would like to wish Jill all the very best for the next different phase of her life, and would like to thank Mr Ellis, Mrs Burnett, Mrs Warwick and our phase leads, along with all the amazing staff, for their dedication and enthusiasm in taking Wimbledon Chase forward in 2021 and beyond. We have much to do this year and all of us want to go further - and we will.

With all the very best,

Zoe, Tom and the Governing Body of WCPS