



Merley First School

Oakley Straight, Merley, Wimborne, BH21 1SD
office@merleyfirstschool.net www.merleyfirstschool.com
Tel: 01202 888455

Head teacher: Jane Phillips miss.phillips@merleyfirstschool.net

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Dear Parents and Children

It is with a heavy heart that I write to inform you that at the end of this term - Easter I will be leaving as Head Teacher of Merley First School. I have been offered a position as Executive Head Teacher for The Federation of Hazel Wood and Lydlynch Infant Schools in Southampton.

As most of you will know, I came to the school in April 2015 and I have thoroughly enjoyed the four years I have been Head Teacher of Merley First School. Working with the children and staff here has made me feel extremely proud daily of their respect for each other, their positive attitudes, hard work and determination to improve in everything they do.

During my four years I have had the pleasure of watching the school go from strength to strength. It has been a wonderful pleasure and privilege to see the children grow and develop into such confident and successful learners. I will not be leaving until the end of this term and before then we have much to do. When I leave, which will not be easy, I will miss everyone here that I have grown to love and respect and would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for making me feel so welcome. I know that you will all do the same for my successor.

I understand that some parents may have anxieties about the future but I would like to reassure you that I have every confidence in the school's ability to recruit an excellent Head Teacher to carry on my work. The Academy Members of Merley First School and the CEO and Trustees of Wimborne Trust are already engaged in discussions about my replacement and will keep you all informed.

In the information pack when I originally applied for the job as Head Teacher of Merley First School there was a letter from the children asking that the new person appointed should be fair and make them laugh. I sincerely hope I have fulfilled my promise to do these two things well during the last four years.

Regards and best wishes to you all for the future,

Jane Phillips
Headteacher

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