



Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

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Mrs. L.A.Hardman, Headteacher

Wednesday 3rd May 2017

Dear parents and carers,

I am writing to inform you that last Friday, 28th April; I received a letter of resignation from our Headteacher, Mrs Hardman, to take effect from 31st August 2017. After thirteen years as Headteacher at Bishop Wood C of E Junior School, Mrs Hardman has been appointed as Lead Advisor for Disadvantaged Learners (Diminishing the Difference) for Hertfordshire. This position will utilize many of the skills and expertise that she has developed over her varied career and I hope that you will join me in congratulating her on her new appointment.

Mrs Hardman will be leaving the school in a strong position. Her vigilant approach to learning and pupil welfare has been a driving force behind many improvements to the school over the last few years. The success of the recent Ofsted inspection is a tribute to the skill and commitment that she has brought to her leadership. Investment in her staff has been a priority to her over the last few years and she leaves behind a staff team that is well-equipped to respond to the current education environment.

The governing body will be responsible for appointing a new Headteacher. We are able to draw on a wide range of expertise to assist us in this process. Please be assured that we are committed to making an appointment that is in the best interests of all current and future pupils at this school. We will let you know as soon as we have any information regarding Mrs Hardman's successor.

There are so many children who have passed through Bishop Wood School during Mrs Hardman's tenure as Headteacher who will have benefited from her ability to hold together both the ambition for each child to reach their potential and a caring compassion that makes each child feel loved and valued for who they are. This is a special skill and on behalf of all those children and their families, I would like to thank her. Since I became a governor, and especially since I became Chair of Governors, I have been impressed by her open, collaborative approach, both with governors and with staff. As someone coming to this role from outside education, she has taught me so much and I have enormous respect for her dedication to such a multi-faceted and demanding role. I will miss her warmth and humanity immensely.

I wanted to share the news of Mrs Hardman's departure with you as soon as possible. I would like to thank her for everything that she has done for the Bishop Wood community and to wish her all the best for the future.

Yours sincerely,
Beth Townsend,

Chair of Governors, Bishop Wood C of E Junior School

