



St Chad's Church of England Primary School

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Headteacher: Mrs Gina Marsland

Thursday 2nd April

Dear Parents and/or Carers

Miss Jukes – Moving On

This is one of the hardest letters I have had to write, and I know you will find this difficult to read too and the news incredibly disappointing.

Katie Jukes joined St. Chad's in January 2024 and in the almost 2 ½ years with us, her impact has been transformational. I know we all recognised immediately that she was a special talent not to mention her endless passion, warmth and enthusiasm.

We are not the only one to recognise and be aware of Katie's knowledge, skills and personal qualities. She has been appointed to set up a new primary school in London. You may be aware that Katie came to us in January 2024 from London where she has family ties, and this amazing opportunity will see her return to London.

Owing to safer recruitment processes, we have only now been able to inform you of this move now; Katie takes up her new role on the 1st June meaning her last day at St. Chad's will be **Friday 22nd May**. Her new employer wanted her to begin earlier than this. As you know, Katie puts the children first; cares deeply about them and their progress, and St. Chad's, and as such has negotiated as late a start date as was possible.

We know that for those of you with children in year 4 this news will be particularly disappointing. We have worked hard to consider what is best for the class, and I am pleased to be able to let you know that from the 1st June, Mr Ewan Taylor will be the year 4 class teacher. Mr Taylor was on placement with us in year 4 earlier in the year and so the class is known to him. I do recall on his last day when surrounded by crying year 4 pupils a parent saying to me, "You know what you need to do Mrs Marsland!" Whilst this has been achieved (!), this is obviously not in the circumstances I would have liked. To support the transition, Mr Taylor will be in school on a phased start and/or for key dates in the first half of the summer term. We will write to you separately about Nell Bank, but this trip is unaffected and Mr Taylor will accompany the class. Ms Davies and Mrs Futers will lead the trip as they do each year and either myself or Miss Matthews will be in attendance also.

I hope when you have had the chance to reflect on this news, and the exciting opportunity this is for Miss Jukes that you will take the time to congratulate her on this new role.

On a personal note, leadership can sometimes feel hard and continually being positive sometimes difficult. I will truly miss Katie who has made leadership feel none of this and has helped me develop as a leader.



Co-CEOs: Mrs Helen Pratten & Ms Catherine Garrett

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Miss Jukes is also our Assistant Head, and that there are plans in place regarding this role also details of which I will share next half term when safer recruitment process are complete.

Katie knows that should she ever wish to return to Yorkshire that we would welcome her back with open arms, and I hope that if timetables ever allow, she is able to visit. We would love to see her and Miss Jukes would LOVE it too!

Kind regards

Gina Marsland

Gina Marsland
Headteacher