



Friars Primary School & Nursery

Part of the Portico Academy Trust

Principal - Mr C. McClay

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CEO – Mrs C. Woolf

Friday 8th December 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope it has been a good week for everyone and that there are some lovely plans ahead for the weekend.

Sadly, I need to share news that Ms. Murphy our SENDCo will be leaving at the end of this autumn term. Ms. Murphy has worked at Friars since September 2016 and has been a vital part of our staff and senior leadership team. I am particularly grateful for the strong leadership support Ms. Murphy provided across the COVID-19 pandemic as well as her excellent work supporting children, families and staff. I know that Ms. Murphy will be missed.

As you already know, we have Mrs. Halls starting with us in January as our new Vice Principal. Mrs. Halls is the current Assistant Headteacher and SENDCo at West Leigh Junior School and she has been in school talking with Ms. Murphy to enable a smooth transition for our children. Mrs. Lynch will continue in her role as SEND Teacher and will work closely with Mrs. Halls in January.

In addition to this, I am very pleased to share with you that we have now appointed an Assistant Principal who will become our SENDCo when she starts with us in February. Mrs. Turner has been an Assistant Headteacher and SENDCo both in Basildon and Southend and brings excellent experience.

In a separate letter to 3KA, we have shared that Mrs. Knight is also leaving this Christmas. We thank Mrs. Knight for her time here at Friars and we wish her every happiness for the future.

Have a great weekend and see you all on Monday.

Yours sincerely,

C. McClay

Mr. C. McClay
Principal