

Sparsholt C. E. Primary School

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11th December 2018

Dear Parents,

We are delighted to announce that the LEA (Local Education Authority) and Governors have engaged an experienced Headteacher to join Mrs Gwilliam in providing leadership for Sparsholt CofE Primary school in light of Mrs Laver's recent resignation. Kenneth Davies will join us from Cliddesden Primary school for 2.5 days per week. An agreement has been signed which has made Kenneth available to us as Headteacher until the end of the school year.

Kenneth Davies

Mr Davies joins us as 'Interim Headteacher', by secondment. The secondment agreement, negotiated on our behalf by the LEA, allows Mr Davies to share his leadership time evenly between Sparsholt CofE and Cliddesden. Mr Davies and Mrs Gwilliam have met to agree a provisional timetable when Mr Davies will be present at Sparsholt and this will be flexible depending upon both Sparsholt's and Cliddesden's needs. Mr Davies will have overall responsibility as the Head of the school with Mrs Gwilliam remaining in her Deputy Head role. Mrs Gwilliam will continue to be responsible for the daily leadership of the school on the days that Mr Davies is at Cliddesden.

Message from Kenneth Davies

Dears Parents and Carers,

I look forward to joining you in January as interim Headteacher at Sparsholt C of E Primary. I am currently Headteacher at Cliddesden Primary School near Basingstoke where I have been in the position for five successful years. It is a similar sized school with a community that spans a wide area from the local villages to parts of the town of Basingstoke.

Before coming to Hampshire I had an exciting and varied teaching career in London. I now live in Winchester and have two children who attend Harestock Primary School.

I will continue to lead Cliddesden but I will be spending equal amounts of time at each school during the week. When I am at Sparsholt, I aim to continue to strengthen the leadership team alongside Mrs Gwilliam and continue to take the school forward. I also look forward to working with an enthusiastic and skilled staff, your delightful children, a dedicated governing body and a strong school community.

Kenneth Davies



Oak Class

In light of the secondment agreement, Mrs Gwilliam may be out of the classroom a maximum of 0.5 day more than she currently is, so 1.5 becoming 2.0. The Governors and I have no concerns around the progression or support being offered in Oak Class under this arrangement and Mrs Gwilliam has organised a 'SATs Information Evening' on Monday 21st January at 6.30pm to update Year 6 parents on pupils' progress.

Lynn Laver

On behalf of myself and the Governors, I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank Mrs Laver for her committed and dedicated service to the school community spanning over twenty years. Lynn has sent a short message to parents below and there is a collection in the school office for anyone wishing to contribute towards her leaving gift.

Message from Lynn Laver

Thank you to everyone for your support and understanding in making my decision.

For the past 21 years I have thoroughly enjoyed being in the warm, special and welcoming Sparsholt Primary School community.

I have so many happy memories over the years and feel blessed to have had a job that I am passionate about.

I am going to return to the heart of what I love and I am starting a class-teaching role at Stanmore Primary school from January.

Thank you for all your good wishes and I wish you all a very Happy Christmas and New Year.

Lynn Laver

Long term

The future leadership options for the school have been an immediate high priority and were discussed in full during the Full Governing Body meeting on the 10th December. Kenneth Davies attended the meeting along with Andy Yeoman from the LEA. I am able to confirm that as a result of these comprehensive discussions, the Governors have decided to advertise for a full time Headteacher in the New Year, to start September 2019.

Finally, the Governors and I would like to acknowledge and wholeheartedly thank all the staff at school for seamlessly progressing and inspiring the education of the children during this transition in leadership. The atmosphere at school remains focused, positive and committed to excellence.

We would particularly like to extend our deep gratitude to Mrs Gwilliam, who remains a driving force behind our values of **Courage, Compassion and Creativity**. Mrs Gwilliam has made a significant and widely noted impact on the leadership of the school during the last two weeks, whilst also maintaining Oak Class as her primary focus.

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas and a Peaceful New Year.

Kathy Bamber

Chair of Governors
Sparsholt CofE Primary