



# Denton Primary School

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Executive Head Jill Gardner

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06.01.2017

Dear Parents & Carers

## **RE: Retirement of Headteacher**

May I begin by wishing you all a very happy new year! With a new year comes change, as today I have received formal notification that Jill Gardner will retire this summer.

As you will know Jill has been part of Denton Primary School since September 2013 when she joined as Executive Headteacher following the retirement of David Croot. This provided a fantastic opportunity for both Denton and Yardley Hastings Schools to work closely together and one which Jill has made tremendously successful. Jill joined Denton Primary School at a time when our school was in a very different place and she has driven the school's dramatic transformation over the past 4 years to where it is today.

As a Governor it has been a privilege to work closely with Jill over the last 4 years and to see the school improve and thrive. Given where we started from and where the school is now, I am sure Jill would agree with me that the journey has been far from easy but we are immensely proud of what we have achieved including a new Ofsted 'Good' last year.

There will be plenty of opportunities during the next few months for us to express our thanks and celebrate Jill's contribution to our school and children.

Our attention must now focus on securing the future leadership of our school. I and other Governors have been in close contact with the Governing Body at Yardley Hastings Primary School. I am pleased to confirm that both our Governing Bodies have unanimously agreed to continue our 'partnership' and to seek to recruit a new Executive Headteacher. Preparations for this are well advanced and the recruitment search will begin immediately. Our aim is to appoint a new Executive Headteacher by Easter which will enable a 'hand-over' period and ensure as smooth a transition as possible over the Summer Term.

I will keep you updated as much as possible through this transition. However if you have any questions I and other Governors will be delighted to discuss these with you so please contact us.

Finally, as Chair of Governors and a parent of two Children at the school, I am sure you will want to join with me in sending all of our very best wishes to Jill in her future adventures.

Kind regards

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Arthur Brenton', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

**Arthur Brenton**  
DPS Chair of Governors