



End of the Spring Term - 2022

Dear Parents/ Carers,

So, this is my last ever Newsletter to you all and I want to take the opportunity to thank you all for your kind words, messages, cards and gifts. Thank you to everyone who contributed to my gift and wrote in the book - I will take time to read this, along with the children's lovely messages and my cards, over the holidays with a cup of tea and a box of tissues! There have been a few tears, lots of cuddles and lots of laughs. It has been quite an overwhelming day. My thanks to Mr. Tingey and the staff for making my send off such a thoughtful one, I shall cherish today.

I know I am leaving the school in very good hands with Mr. Tingey taking the helm supported by Mrs. Page and Miss Mullings and the rest of the fabulous Lakenheath team.

I thought I would share, with you all, my message to the school in assembly earlier today:

This is a big day for me as I am not only leaving Lakenheath but am also leaving headship and teaching.

I have been a teacher for nearly 30 years so this is going to be a big change for me but, in true Lakenheath style, I am taking a risk and being brave going to try something new.

In a conversation with my own children recently we worked out that I have done approximately 900 get ups for school [as a pupil, a student and a teacher]. I am quite looking forward to not getting up for school in the same way! We also worked out how many children I have either taught or worked with in my career: I have taught over 600 children as a class teacher and been a headteacher for over 1000!

I am really proud to say I have been the headteacher at Lakenheath - the school has come a long way in the last 5 years and is really heading to be a very good school. The one thing that will really stand out for me is what a happy place this is to be and what a fantastic team we are. I was asked recently what the two best things about Lakenheath Community Primary School are and it was a very easy one to answer:

The children and the staff!

I would like to thank you all for coming on this journey with me. Journeys are not always meant to be smooth or easy and we have certainly had some bumps in the road, some twists and turns to navigate and even the odd hump backed bridge that takes your breath away, but it is a journey I will always remember.



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The road ahead for us all is a little unknown and all we can do is; **breathe in, breathe out, move on.**

Show **respect** for yourself and others, build new **relationships**, be brave and take a **risk**, use whatever **resources** you can to help you along the way, show **resilience** and don't give up when things get hard and finally **reflect** on what amazing things you have achieved and all you have accomplished.

You are all **AMAZING** and I will miss you all.

Rather than goodbye - this is 'See you all soon!'

Thanks again for all your support, trust, belief and kindness over the last 5 years. I am leaving with many happy memories and lots of valuable experience, which I will be able to put to good use in my new role supporting other headteachers.

Just some brief reminders:

- The children return on TUESDAY APRIL 26th.
- They can wear their summer uniform from this point.
- Shoulder length hair must be tied back [girls and boys] and should not be half up/half down.
- Breakfast club and after school bookings are open for the summer term.
- Lunches must be paid in advance and all dinner debts must be cleared before children are allowed to order school meals again.

Wishing you all a very Happy Easter and once again, thank you all!

Yours sincerely,

Sally Esom