



THE PEGASUS ACADEMY TRUST



WHITEHORSE MANOR
INFANT SCHOOL



ECCLESBOURNE
PRIMARY SCHOOL



WHITEHORSE MANOR
JUNIOR SCHOOL



BEULAH INFANT &
NURSERY SCHOOL



CYPRESS
PRIMARY SCHOOL



ATWOOD PRIMARY
SCHOOL

Executive Principals:

Mr M J Roberts & Ms L D Sampson

Head of School: Mrs S Russell

26th May 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

Retirement of Mrs. Sharon Russell

This letter is to inform all members of our school community that Mrs. Russell, Head of School at Whitehorse Manor Infants, has informed us of her intention to retire this summer. As you will all know, Mrs. Russell has been a longstanding member of staff at Whitehorse Manor Infants, having started at the school as a newly qualified teacher 24 years ago in September 1999! She subsequently became Deputy Headteacher at the school and has been the Head of School since Whitehorse Infants joined the Trust in 2011. This is a wonderful record of service to the school and the Directors of the Trust and the Members of the Academy Council would like to express their sincere thanks to Mrs. Russell for her work at Whitehorse Manor Infants over all these years. There are now children attending the school whose parents were attending when Mrs. Russell started at Whitehorse and overall thousands of children have benefitted from her work at the school. All of us know her as a committed, organised and thoughtful colleague and friend who has not only had the interests of the children at heart but has also guided many new teachers through their first years in the classroom. Her good humour and energy have served her well and she will now have the chance to focus on her own interests and her family and can schedule a holiday or two in term time. It will seem very odd to be returning in September without Mrs. Russell being there but she deserves a long and happy retirement - we will all miss her. Thanks from all of us at Whitehorse Manor Mrs. Russell!

That inevitably leads us to the question of who will lead Whitehorse Manor Infants next year and I am delighted to tell you that Nicola Hall, currently Head of Site at our Brigstock site has been appointed to this role. Miss Hall has also been with the Trust her entire teaching career and has been Head of Site at Brigstock since it opened. We know she will continue with the great work at Whitehorse Infants and she will doubtless be planning opportunities to introduce herself to those of you who she hasn't yet met before the end of term. We congratulate her on her promotion. To complete the picture, Nicole Stephenson-Tye, currently Deputy Head of School at Whitehorse Manor Junior School, has been appointed to run our Brigstock site from next year. Mrs. Stephenson-Tye is another experienced and trusted colleague and we count ourselves fortunate as a Trust that when we are recruiting we have such a wealth of good internal candidates to choose from. We know that she will continue the good work of Miss. Hall at Brigstock.

I am sure that there will be opportunities in the summer term where the children and their families will be able to say their goodbyes to Mrs. Russell. In the meantime, we thought it was best that this news was shared with you so that we can all prepare ourselves for the changes that are to come in September 2023.

Thank you for your attention

Jolyon Roberts
Executive Headteacher

WHITEHORSE MANOR INFANT SCHOOL

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