



'Learning together, loving others, guided by God'

Heene Church of England (Aided) Primary School

Friday 11th June 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing to you today to introduce myself to you as one of the Co-Headteachers, who will be leading Heene following the unforeseen departure of Mrs. Cunningham at half-term. You will be aware that Mrs. Cunningham was unable to continue her leadership at Heene due to personal circumstances. As a result of this, you will know that Mrs Ann Walton and myself will be leading the school together through the coming six weeks. Mrs. Walton is an experienced Headteacher who has most recently worked as a Local Authority Adviser, working for the school effectiveness team. She knows Heene very well because in recent years, part of her Link Adviser Role has been to support Heene in that capacity. I am grateful to Ann Walton for agreeing to transfer her advisory skills back into headship for coming few weeks so that, together with Miss Jo Beer, we can ensure we are able to secure a positive end to the term for all our children and staff.

From a personal perspective I have been involved in all aspects of education for the past 40 years since beginning my teaching career in Worthing in 1981. Since that time I have been a headteacher on a number of occasions and in recent years have supported schools in Hampshire, West Sussex and Portsmouth on an Interim basis. I have been involved in supporting Heene since June last year and am delighted to be sharing the leadership of the school, with Mrs. Walton until the end of this term. In September, I will continue to do this, sharing the leadership of the school with Mrs. Julia Sherlock, currently still headteacher at Eastbrook Primary School in Southwick.

Next week, I will begin to provide weekly videos for you, so that you can all get to 'see' me and can be kept right up to date with the things we are doing at Heene and the progress we are making on our school improvement journey. These videos will be available to you on a Friday, the same day as the Newsletter will come out to you each and every week. It is really important to both Mrs. Walton and myself, that we do all we can to communicate effectively with you as parents and carers, especially after such turbulent year for our school. We are fully aware that this has been an unsettled time for you all, especially in terms of leadership. I want you to be assured that we will be doing all we can to involve you all in future communication, especially as we hopefully continue to emerge from the challenges of the pandemic. Do please let us know of any concerns you have moving forward.



INVESTORS
IN PEOPLE



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We can both be contacted through the office and on each day of the week, either Mrs. Walton, Miss Beer or myself will be available to meet with you but for reasons I am sure you will understand this can only be through an appointment which we would ask you to make through the office. Moving forward, we will also be at the front of the school at the start and end of the day, when we are able to be – so do please make yourselves known to us.

We both look forward to working with you over the coming weeks and do please be assured that we will do all we can to ensure the children know who we are, why we are here and that their happiness, and progress at Heene is our primary concern.

Warmest regards

Joy Waelend and Ann Walton

Co-headteachers