



The Dove Federation Governing Board Newsletter

8th June 2018

Dear all

We are currently in a season of change as I am sure you are all aware, there have been a number of rumours flying and hopefully this letter will answer some of the queries raised.

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Mark Cresswell as Interim Headteacher, Mark is a very experienced headteacher and is very much looking forward to get to know you all.

Communication

I realise that it has been difficult to hear rumours and speculation and to have no information from the School or staff, my apologies if you have felt like you are the last to know, but schools are very much tied to observing processes and so information can only be shared when it is confirmed and appropriate. As Mark settles in, we will be working on further ways to communicate and work with you.

Warning notices

I was not able to explain to parents, before you found out from the local press, that our schools have been served with warning notices, it is not common practice to share this information with Parents.

The notices were issued due to the Local Authority's concerns relating to the turbulence and uncertainty around leadership and governance. They are a mechanism of triggering higher level support.

I am determined to take the action required to make the improvements that your children deserve, but please let me reassure you, your children are being taught well and are happy at school.

Immediate actions include:

- The appointment of a new, highly experienced interim headteacher, Mark Cresswell, who has already started work and is with us for the foreseeable future.
- Continued rebuilding and training of an effective governing board that will ensure it is equipped to make the changes required to improve the schools.

Headteacher

As you are aware Mr Dekker has not been in school since November and I can now confirm he will not be returning to the Dove Federation effective immediately, the following is a statement from him, he wished to share with you all:

Dear Parents

It is with regret, that I have to inform you of my decision to leave the position of Head Teacher at The Dove Federation. Obviously this was not my intention when I accepted the

post. Due to certain circumstances my health started to go downhill from the Summer holiday onwards and hanging on despite a protesting body was certainly not the best option.

In the short time that I have been at the Federation I have loved working with you and especially your children: they are great kids!

I wish you and your children all the best for the future, hoping that all their dreams will come true!

Best wishes,

Cor Dekker

This means that when the Governing Board meet on Monday we will begin the process of appointing a new substantive headteacher.

Staffing changes

There are a number of staffing changes that will be happening from September, in relation to teaching staff I have received the resignations of Mrs Hopkins, Mrs Jones, Mrs Nelson and Miss Joyce, and I am sure you join me in wishing them well as they move to their new schools.

We will be recruiting to replace these members of staff over the next few weeks and Mark or myself will keep you updated with further news.

Parent Forum

I am sure the above information has probably raised a number of questions or concerns. It is my intention to hold a meeting with parents soon, so that you can raise these and Mark and I can give you the latest updates. I will let you know the date for this after the Governing board meeting on Monday.

I look forward to continue to working with the schools and yourselves so that we can achieve the best for your children.

Kind Regards



Helen Adshead
Chair of Governors