



St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

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Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

27th February 2023

Dear Year 1 Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, Miss Lavelle remains absent from school due to ill health and will continue to do so for the rest of this half term. As I mentioned in the letter I sent to you last week, we had started the process of looking into finding an additional teacher to join the Year 1 team throughout this period. I am pleased to inform you that we have secured Miss Barry to join us. Miss Barry has been with us since Thursday last week and has taken time to observe the children, work with the members of staff and become familiar with the class and school routines. Miss Barry is an experienced teacher from New Zealand, and I hope you will support myself, and the rest of the staff team, in welcoming her into the school community.

I know that change can be unsettling for the children, however this has been an unavoidable situation and I hope that keeping the consistency of the other adults in the room, has been supportive for the children. Miss Reeve and Gozde will both continue to support Miss Barry in the classroom for the foreseeable future.

As English lead for the whole school, Miss Bullen will be supporting Year 1 in their phonics work, to ensure they are in a great position ready for the national Phonics screening checks that take place in June. She will also be holding a Parent Workshop at 9am, Friday 10th March to explain what is involved in the screening and how to best support your child at home ready for this. Please can I urge you all to attend if possible.

I will continue to keep you updated regarding Miss Lavelle's absence as and when I receive further information.

Best wishes,

Lindsey Hodgson

Head of School

