



# St John's Highbury Vale C of E Primary School

Conewood Street, London N5 1DL

Tel: 020 7226 4906

E-mail: [admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk](mailto:admin@stjhv.islington.sch.uk)

Head of School: Mrs Lindsey Hodgson

Executive Head: Mrs Tonnie Read

Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2022

Dear Year 4 Parents and Carers,

I am writing to inform you that Friday 13<sup>th</sup> May will be Miss Verbeeten's last day here at St John's. Miss Verbeeten joined us in January at the beginning of this academic year, in order to cover Miss Haverman's maternity leave. Miss Verbeeten had originally planned to stay until the end of the academic year. After a number of conversations in the past two weeks between the leadership team and Miss Verbeeten, she has decided that she can no longer fulfil that commitment and will be leaving at the end of this week.

I know this may come as a shock to you all, and another change of teacher this year is not what anyone wanted. I feel that the decision Miss Verbeeten has made is the right one and it is fully supported by Mrs Read and myself. We have worked very hard this week to try to ensure we can replace Miss Verbeeten with immediate effect. We are currently in the process of interviewing a number of candidates and hope to be able to announce the new Year 4 teacher as soon as we can. We do not want to rush into appointing someone who is not the right fit for the class.

As parents, I know you will be understandably concerned about another new teacher getting to know your child well, and the time in which it takes to do this. In order to support the new teacher getting to know your children quickly and provide for all of the needs in the classroom, a thorough handover will take place between Miss Verbeeten and Miss Jones. Miss Jones will then meet with the new teacher, once they are appointed and handover all of information. Alongside this, I have taken the decision to assign Mrs O'Connor to Year 4 as their teaching assistant for the rest of the academic year. If anyone knows Year 4 and their abilities, I believe it is Mrs O'Connor, after her many years of working with them in the past.

Mrs Read and I are more than happy to meet with any parents who may have further questions regarding this letter on Monday next week, either first thing in the morning or after school. If you are interested in meeting with us, please contact the front office and express whether you would like to come in after drop off or after the school day.

Please be assured that the education and care of your children is our priority at all times. While we are sometimes faced with circumstances beyond our control, and inevitably this change may unsettle some children, we will do everything we can as a team to support them through this transition and make it a happy final term in Year 4.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs Lindsey Hodgson  
Head of School

