



7th May 2025

Dear Parent/Carers

We are writing to inform you that Mrs West has made the difficult decision to retire at the end of this academic year. Mrs West has been a fantastic leader at Oaklands for over 15 years. Having joined the Juniors in 2009 as a Deputy Headteacher, she has progressed to Junior School Headteacher and for this last year has taken on the challenge of Executive Headteacher across the Infants and Juniors.

Mrs West has shown a huge passion for Oaklands, always seeking to develop and enhance the experience for pupils. She is a Head who gets the balance between teaching and learning and personal development absolutely right. From school trips, shows and sports through to SATS, the curriculum and OFSTED we could not have been more fortunate than to have had Mrs West at the helm. Across the last year she has worked to bring the two schools into closer alignment whilst also protecting their individual identity. Huge progress has been made here and Mrs West has set us up for future success.

Mrs West is going to take the opportunity to travel, spend time with her family and thoroughly enjoy her retirement. She will write to you later in the term to say her own farewell. She leaves with our thanks and very best wishes for a long and happy retirement.

We are fortunate to have real strength in the leadership of Oaklands. Ms Weston and Mr Holland have done a great job as Heads of School this year and work well together. They, along with Governors and the Trust, are keen to keep the momentum of closer working going. Across the next few weeks, we look forward to developing a leadership model that utilises our existing team and allows the schools to continue to flourish. We will share further information later this term.

Yours faithfully



Stuart Matthews
CEO



Kathryn Pierce
Chair of Governors