



14/07/20

Dear parents and carers

As we head towards the end of the most extraordinary school year, I want to take this opportunity to say a huge thank you to all our families who have supported us throughout this difficult time. When we closed our school gates in March, we all knew that the months ahead were going to be tough and life was going to feel very different for some time. We struggled to deal with our emotions, we missed our families and friends and we worried about our school community. Throughout the past months, as we have found ways to adapt and support children with learning at home, what became really evident is that we are part of an amazing community at Springfield. Having your support has made our work in school over the past few months so much easier and we have really appreciated it. Your kind words when we called you at home, your support throughout and your efforts to help others in need have meant a great deal to all of us in school. When we look back in years to come and remember the year of the pandemic, I personally will remember more than anything else, the support, positivity and kindness of our school community throughout.

As most of you know, I am leaving Springfield at the end of this term. After twelve very happy years here, I decided I needed a new challenge. I have taken up a post as headteacher of a very large school in Walthamstow. I will miss Springfield hugely. I have loved every minute of my time here and know I have been incredibly lucky to have had the privilege of being the headteacher of such a special school. Springfield will always have a very special place in my heart and I will always treasure the memories I have gathered over the years. I am incredibly proud of our school and the community it serves and am absolutely certain it will continue to be a great school. Saying goodbye is difficult but I know that there are exciting times ahead for the children at Springfield. I am absolutely confident that the school will go from strength to strength with Miss Case 'at the helm', supported by an amazing staff team. I will of course visit and keep in touch and look forward to hearing all about the school's achievements and successes in the future.

We officially finish school this Friday. For some of you, this will feel very strange as you haven't been at school for a long time. Staff are busy preparing for a full reopening in September and are really excited about welcoming everyone back to school. The school will reopen on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> September and staff are already looking forward to seeing all their children back at school.

We do understand that some of you may still feel anxious about returning to school – we will be sharing with you the steps we will be taking to make school as safe as it can be by the end of the week and will continue to post updates on our website over the summer, if government guidance changes. Please be reassured that when the children do return to school in September, the staff will do everything they can to support them both academically and emotionally as they begin their new school year

Over the holiday period, the school will be closed as our staff take time to recharge and prepare for the new school year. They have worked tirelessly over the past few months and are ready for a break. I hope you can all do the same and enjoy the summer.

Thank you once again for all your support over the years and for helping to make the last twelve years such a positive, rewarding and happy time of my life.

Best wishes

*Fiona*