



Bedenham Primary School

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Executive Headteacher: Mrs T Potter BEd (Hons) NPQH

Head of School: Mrs C Wood MEd PGCE BSc

Dear Parents and Carers,

6th May 2016

It is with very mixed emotions that we write to tell you of the retirement of two of our very precious members of staff, Mrs Chris Bean and Mrs Anthea Hurst. They will leave us at the end of July.

Mrs Hurst has been a friendly and welcoming face for 28 years at Bedenham; what a lot of changes she has seen in those years, including 5 head teachers. Prior to joining us in 1988, she worked at Sanderson Wallpaper manufacturers as a secretary. She joined us as a dinner lady and office volunteer before becoming an office secretary. She has worked tirelessly since and has helped in influencing the lives of many thousands of children who have passed through the school in that time! Recently she has become fondly known as the 'chicken lady' as she regularly provides a home for our spring chicks. She is looking forward to spending time with her grandson, catching up with friends and digging around on her allotment.

Mrs Bean, our Child and Family Support Worker, started work at Bedenham as a parent volunteer and then classroom assistant. She then became a teaching assistant, Home School Link Worker and then moved to her current role. She has been an asset to the school for 18 years and has been an important point of contact for many parents and children. She is a great listener, advice giver, comforting drink maker, appointment driver, referral maker, police liaison, parent prodder, tear wiper and smile maker. She is a huge part of our school community and we will be sad to see her go. She will be spending more time on her barge and enjoying time with her granddaughters.

Despite being very big shoes to fill, fear not! We have asked Miss Dev Wakefield to step in to the office role until Mrs Beames returns to work, and Mrs Caroline Pattinson will become an ELSA working as part of the Nurture Team alongside Mrs Edwards. The team at Bedenham will ensure that the support for your children and office efficiency provided by our two wonderful ladies will continue after they have left us. We would like to say a huge thank you for all they have done for the school, and wish them a happy and long retirement.

Yours Faithfully,

C Wood

Tracy Potter

