

14 May 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: Leadership Update

We hope that you and your families are safe and healthy and managing to engage with the learning opportunities provided by the school. We are sure these things will come to an end eventually but we thought that you should be updated on what is happening at Test Valley School in the immediate future.

We are very pleased to inform you that Mrs Dean and Ms Wilden have agreed to continue with the interim management of the school until the end of the autumn term. Mrs Dean will continue to provide the strategic leadership and oversight of the school - working closely with governors - as the Executive Headteacher in this interim period whilst Ms Wilden will oversee the day-to-day operational management and provide direct support to parents and children. We are sure you will be as delighted by this news as we are and will continue to support and engage with Mrs Dean and Ms Wilden as they drive the necessary improvements in our school.

There is no doubt that the measures taken to deal with Covid 19 have impacted on the significant progress that Mrs Dean and Ms Wilden have been making in moving the school forward during the interim arrangements. Although the school has not been open in the conventional way it does not mean that things have not progressed; in fact a very great deal has been achieved by them both in the sphere of school management and behind the scenes activities. Some of these have been obvious for example changes to the school website and the updating of policies and others such as new paint will only be apparent when children return to school. Although the school remained open for the children of key workers, and staff prepared work for home schooling for the remainder, the community in which a positive learning environment was being nurtured has been disrupted.

In view of this disruption, governors have decided to postpone the recruitment of a new Headteacher for Test Valley, until we are all able to enjoy more stability. It is with confidence that we endorse this arrangement and feel that you too would wish to support Mrs Dean, Ms Wilden and the staff of TVS to continue with the excellent work already begun.

Yours sincerely

Hazel Lankester

Nigel Melville

Co-Chair of Governors

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