



PARKGATE INFANTS & NURSERY SCHOOL

**Northfield Gardens,
Watford,
Herts, WD24 7RL
Tel. 01923 221984**

**e-mail : admin@parkgateinfants.herts.sch.uk
Headteacher Miss A E Lawrence**

31st March 2017

Dear Parents,

We have received a letter from Miss Lawrence informing all of us in our school community of her intention to retire at the end of this academic year.

We are sure you will join us in thanking her for her devoted and exemplary service to our school over the last thirty - yes, thirty - years. Miss Lawrence has been a wonderful Headteacher for 26 of them, and children past and present, staff and governors will be sure to miss her very much indeed – it will certainly be a peculiar feeling come September.

After such a long period of leadership stability, it can be worrying to face change, but as governors we have been all too aware and mindful that this day would eventually come. We have worked to ensure that Miss Lawrence's departure will not adversely affect the school and most importantly our young students.

To this end, we are appointing Mr Pritchard, the current deputy, as Headteacher in an acting capacity for the 2017-2018 academic year. Mr Pritchard has been with the school for thirteen years, six of them as Deputy. He has recently completed his Headship training so is perfectly positioned to continue to build on Miss Lawrence's legacy.

The Governing Body will conduct a thorough recruitment process for a permanent Head teacher during the 2017/2018 academic year. Mr Pritchard will be welcome to apply for the permanent role should he so choose.

We are a relatively small school, but we firmly believe that we have a great team of teachers, assistants and support staff who will assist Mr Pritchard and help ensure that Parkgate Infants and Nursery School continues to operate effectively and successfully. As a Governing Body, we would like to take this opportunity to thank them publicly for all the excellent work that they do for the children that pass through their care.

We will of course want to mark Miss Lawrence's well-earned retirement nearer the time to reflect on her achievements and wish her a long, happy and fulfilling time outside of school life. The school will keep parents informed in this regard via the newsletter.

Thank you for your continued support, and enjoy your holidays!

Yours Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Paul Burke'.

Paul Burke
Co-Chair of Governing Body