



An All-through Co-operative School
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Head: Ms Beth Kobel

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Dear Students and Families

I hope you had an enjoyable half term break and a good rest. It was fantastic to welcome the students back on Monday and to see so many continue to adapt to our 'new way of being' in order to keep the wider community safe. Thank you for ensuring the students have face masks with them at all times and are using them properly, as well as reinforcing the importance of social distancing to and from school. Our students and staff are working really hard to ensure that we all contribute to lowering the transmission rates of Covid-19. It is also wonderful to see how well everyone is adapting to a blend of remote learning (when necessary) and keeping up with the face to face learning. *Keep up the hard work!*

I am also writing to inform you that I have taken a very difficult decision and will be leaving Preston Manor School at the end of this academic year to pursue my interests in consultancy and executive coaching. After 18 years of being part of the senior team here and the past six years of headship, I am certain Preston Manor is a special place. I absolutely love being Headteacher of this school, and I am very proud of our entire community. It has been an honour and a privilege to lead such an amazing school and come September, I will miss working with such a great group of staff, students, governors and parents.

There is not a day goes past when I do not get to see the talents, skills and enthusiasm of our students in some way or another. It is watching young people grow and develop, achieving their potential, realising their ambitions, becoming responsible young adults and citizens that drives every teacher and it has been a great pleasure to contribute to making this happen for so many Preston Manor students over the years. Throughout my career, I have been very fortunate to work with some wonderful people, some brilliant teachers and some highly talented students: none more so than here at Preston Manor School.

I am confident that our Governing Body will appoint an excellent replacement Headteacher of Preston Manor School, and I know that they will keep you fully informed throughout the recruitment process. This will take some time and involve all aspects of the school community as part of the recruitment. That is why I have decided to share this news with you now in order to allow plenty of time to recruit the right person for the role. Preston Manor School is a really special place because of the people that make up this institution. That will remain the same and I will look forward to hearing about its continued successes long into the future.

However, for now, we have a great deal to do over the rest of this academic year to ensure our students continue to have the highest quality education possible and that they achieve as well as so many that have gone before. I can assure you that I will be completely focussed on making this happen and, whilst a change of Headteacher can be unsettling, I will be relentless in ensuring this transition is as smooth as possible.



I am fully committed to giving my all for each of you until my leaving date, and I will work with our Chair of Governors and the senior leadership team, to ensure the highest quality education for our students at all times.

Please keep our community safe throughout the lockdown and remember to wear face masks in communal places. There is much information on our school website regarding latest guidance, community well-being and remote learning. If you require any support or have any questions, please don't hesitate to get in touch through the usual channels.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Beth Kobel'.

Beth Kobel
Headteacher

