



## SUNNYMEDE JUNIOR SCHOOL

The Meadoway, Billericay, Essex CM11 2HL

Headteacher: Mrs Ronnie Branch BEd (Hons). NPQH

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Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

To all Sunnymede Infant and Junior Parents and Carers,

As I am sure parents from both schools are aware, Mrs Eades announced her retirement as headteacher of the Infant School in January and formally leaves her role today. Throughout this term, the governing bodies from both schools and representatives from the Local Authority have been meeting and discussing the various options available to us when considering a new headteacher for the infant school.

We are writing to inform you all that after much discussion, both governing bodies have unanimously agreed to the following:

After Easter, a Joint Steering Committee consisting of representatives from both Infant and Junior schools governing bodies, Mrs Branch (headteacher of the Junior School), Miss Paulson (acting headteacher of the Infant school) and Mrs Marrion (Executive headteacher of the Infant School) will begin to explore the **possibility of an amalgamation of the Infant and Junior schools and the formation of Sunnymede Primary School.**

At this point in time the process is in its very early stages and it will take the summer term and into the next academic year before any final decision can be made.

A detailed process of due diligence checks needs to take place to analyse whether an amalgamation is viable. Should it be considered an option, a period of consultation and discussion with various stakeholders would then take place.

Whilst this is being undertaken, the following arrangements will be in place throughout the summer term:

Mrs Branch will remain as headteacher of the Junior school and continue in her current role.

Miss Paulson will continue in her role as Full Time Acting Headteacher of the Infant School and Mrs Marrion will continue in her role as executive headteacher of the Infant School for 2 days a week.

Sunnymede Infant and Sunnymede Junior school will remain as separate schools throughout the 2022-2023 academic year.

Throughout the whole process our priority is to continue to provide stability in both schools and ensure that all pupils at Sunnymede Infant and Sunnymede Junior continue to receive a high quality and effective education.

The Joint Governing Body Steering Committee will be meeting on a regular basis and Mrs Branch, Miss Paulson and Mrs Marrion will continue to work closely together. We will keep you all updated as we begin to move through the process of the possible amalgamation.

Yours sincerely,



**Margaret Thomas**

**Junior School Chair of Governors**



**Damian Pye**

**Infant School Chair of Governors**