



HENLEAZE JUNIOR SCHOOL

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Headteachers: Adam Barber and Jonathan Parr

16th December 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

Adam Barber has taken the decision to retire as Head of Henleaze Junior School at the end of this academic year. The governors have accepted his resignation and made plans to ensure continuity and stability as the school moves forward to face whatever challenges and opportunities the future brings.

Having joined the school at Easter in 2004, he will just about make it into his 20th year leading our school. In that time he has led the school from strength to strength, through changes of curriculum, changes of assessment, changes of inspection, changes of government and structural changes to the entire school system. In his own words, "never for one moment have I been short of inspiration or ambition to improve on previous best."

Jonathan Parr, who has been Deputy Head since 2012 and Co-Head since 2021, will continue as Interim Headteacher in September 2023 for the next two years, while we collect and respond to your views on the impact of falling birth rates on our intake in the years ahead. Mr Parr will be supported by a Deputy Head, to be appointed in the new year.

Mr Barber's departure will not come as a surprise to many: the school community may be aware that he has been working a slightly reduced timetable since September 2021 as part of a phased retirement plan. This has enabled the governors and the senior leadership team to prepare a smooth handover. We are very fortunate at Henleaze Junior School in having a strong and stable staff team – some of whom have been here even longer than Mr Barber!

Over the next few months there will be plenty of opportunities for all of us to thank Mr Barber and to wish him well for the future. For now, the governors and I would like to note our sincere thanks for everything he has done for the school and its community.

Best wishes,

Hazel Phillips
Chair of Governors



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