

27th April 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Headteacher Appointment

I am pleased to report that at last night's extraordinary meeting of the Governing Body, the recommendation from the Appointment Panel, which was established to select a new Headteacher was approved unanimously. The recommendation was that Mrs Jo Gant should be appointed to the post of Headteacher, on a permanent basis, which will commence on 1st September 2017.

The panel consisted of Sandra Jones, Chair of the Curriculum Committee, Mick Furness, a Governor with a wealth of experience in recruitment and selection and myself. The panel were supported by a senior advisor from Herts for Learning, also representing the Local Authority. The Diocese of St Albans was also kept closely involved and was consulted throughout the recruitment process. The Diocese has also fully endorsed the decision of the panel.

I had said previously that we would follow a transparent and rigorous process to select, not only the strongest candidate, but also one who met the highest standards we had set for this vital leadership role. I can confirm that after a series of interviews, some of which involved pupil representatives and the school staff, as well as a wide range of activities designed to examine the many demanding aspects of headship, we are able to say, with confidence, that those high standards have been met.

Throughout the selection process, Mrs Gant showed herself to be an inspirational leader and, to quote Sandra Jones, 'exceptionally strong in all areas', a view endorsed by the rest of the panel.

The Governing Body is very much looking forward to continuing to work with Mrs Gant, as the school moves forward on our journey of improvement, whilst celebrating the many aspects of the school community, for which we already have every reason to be proud.

I am sure you would all wish to join me in congratulating Mrs Gant and wishing her well in the permanent post of Headteacher.

Yours faithfully



John Boulter
Chair of Governors

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