



**St Mark's C of E Junior School**  
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***Growing together, becoming all we are created to be***

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2025

Dear Parents,

I am writing to inform you that we will be sadly saying goodbye to two long standing members of staff, very shortly.

Mrs Kearney, who has been a key part of our wonderful Teaching Assistant team for over 20 years, has decided to start a new chapter and to have time to enjoy opportunities that otherwise wouldn't be possible.

Mrs Kearney has made a marked difference to many children's lives at St Mark's. She has worked across the whole of Key Stage 2 during her time here and, in recent years, mainly supporting Year 6 children through their last year of Primary school and helping with preparation to Secondary. This term, Class 1 have been lucky enough to benefit from Mrs Kearney's support and have loved their time with her. As one of our staff members trained by Winston's Wish, Mrs Kearney's involvement with children often in their most vulnerable moments has been incredibly special and truly transformative. Mrs Kearney's last day with us will be on Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April. It is safe to say that Mrs Kearney will be sorely missed.

It is also with mixed emotions to let you know that this will be Mrs Chamberlain's last few months with us as she takes early retirement at the end of the school year. Mrs Chamberlain has a slightly slower pace of life beckoning and will take time to plan next steps – some adventures in store, no doubt! Mrs Chamberlain has spent the majority of her 11 years at St Mark's based in Year 6 and more recently in Year 5, taking on a variety of responsibilities including Writing Lead and Student Mentor. I know that Mrs Chamberlain has been part of many happy memories that children past and present will hold in their hearts. She has given an impressive 32 years to the teaching profession in total – I think it's fair that she takes a little break! We will very much be making the most of Mrs Chamberlain's remaining time with us; meanwhile, we are working behind the scenes to recruit a new Class Teacher to join the Teaching Team in readiness for September.

I know that you will join me in wishing both Mrs Kearney and, when the time comes, Mrs Chamberlain, all the very best for their next chapter.

With my very best wishes,

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

**Mrs A Fitch**  
**Headteacher**

