



The Federation of Antrobus St Marks and Great Budworth CE (A) Primary School

Headteacher: Mrs S Finney

E-mail: head@antrobus.cheshire.sch.uk

head@greatbudworth.cheshire.sch.uk

Telephone: ASM 01606 288 800

Telephone GB 01606 891 383

21st October 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half of the term has gone very quickly and it has been wonderful to once again see our schools full of happy pupils who are working hard. Governors have recently reviewed how our pupils are progressing since returning to school and it is all credit to our fantastic staff that our children who have missed so much formal education are now making good progress to be back on track and are moving forward with their learning so quickly. We know that many of you have also appreciated the nurturing and emotional support that our schools have offered alongside the more academic aspects of school life since returning to school.

All of this wouldn't be possible without staff who have been motivated and led so professionally by Mrs. Finney, which makes our announcement that she will be taking early retirement at the end of this academic year all the more poignant. Mrs. Finney joined Great Budworth School in January 2010, and in the following ten years has taken both our schools on a remarkable journey. Great Budworth had just 31 pupils and two classes then. Under her leadership we have opened our preschools, changed to fully Church of England Aided, grown our pupil numbers, become fully Federated and financially robust despite ever decreasing funding and developed a core team of staff across both Antrobus and Great Budworth who are committed to ensuring your child's happiness whilst learning.

Now, as a Federation of two unique schools, we are in a strong position to attract the best calibre of new Head to lead us on. The Governors will begin the process of drawing up job specifications and advertising the role after half term to ensure that we reach the most potential candidates. We will keep you informed when we have made an appointment.

Needless to say, we can be certain that Mrs. Finney will continue to work wholeheartedly throughout the coming year – her professionalism will ensure she wants to leave everything “ship-shape”.

We will of course want to find some way, within whatever COVID restrictions we might still have by the summer, to commemorate Mrs. Finney's time in both our schools. If you have any thoughts as to how we can do this, we would love to hear from you.

In the meantime, I would like to leave you with a Bible verse which I hope will guide us over the coming year;

“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord,
“plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to
give you hope and a future.”
Jeremiah chapter 29 verse 11

Kind regards

Teresa Nixon
Chair of Governors on behalf of the Full Governing Body