

Dear Parents,

As we approach Easter, I would like to thank you for your support and wish you a peaceful and happy break. I would also like to thank the PTA for their unceasing commitment to the school community. The money raised this week through raffles will help us in the latest playground project.

It is wonderful to have all the children back in school again and I am delighted with the way they have settled straight back into learning. Hopefully, the new term will herald the way for a little bit more freedom but in the meantime, we make the most of every opportunity to get the children outside and give them a chance to rebuild the friendships that have been placed on hold.

I would like to draw your attention to two members of staff who will be leaving our school community.

We bid a fond farewell to Mrs Maney as she leaves us after over 30 years of teaching at OLOP. Her dedication to the school is unmatched and she will be sorely missed by our staff, children and their families. In recent years she has guided curriculum development and she leaves a legacy of creative pedagogy. Mrs Maney held the children at the heart of everything that she did and I am sure that there are many pupils, past and present who carry her influence in their own lives. Many of you will know that Mrs Maney has vast experience as a trainer and a coach. With this in mind, she has chosen to relinquish her teaching career and pursue her love of coaching. We wish her every success.

We will also be saying goodbye to Mr Bolger. As our caretaker, he has become in a very real sense, a part of the building. Over the years, he has dealt with countless 'emergencies' and his calm approach has kept the ship afloat. When he isn't painting, fixing and rebuilding things, he is retrieving footballs and manning the road closure! Nothing is too much trouble for Mr Bolger, working tirelessly to keep the children safe and the building in good repair. Mr Bolger is someone that every child knows and they will miss him. We wish him a very happy retirement.

Best wishes,

Mrs Galloway