



Sarum St Paul's Church of England Primary School

"Loving to learn as we build friendship and faith"

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Headteacher: Mrs E Weavers

Wednesday 11th September 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

I regret to inform you our long standing teaching assistant, Mrs Pam Blake, has lost her battle with cancer and passed away peacefully yesterday. The whole school community is deeply saddened and she will be greatly missed. Pam worked at our school for nearly 18 years and Sarum St Paul's. Following diagnosis she has shown such incredible courage over the past few years, not letting anything stop her from living her life to the full. Our thoughts and prayers are with Pam's family.

Pam took early retirement in 2017 and although has not worked with any current pupils, many of our families and former students will know of Mrs Blake. It was an honour to have Pam as my TA for two years and I will cherish those times with her, she made my first year in Year 6 a very happy one. Pam was so passionate about her job and it was such a difficult decision for her to take early retirement. Sarum St Paul's was a very very special place to her and being a part of our community was a HUGE part of her life. She had high expectations of pupils and they rose to her challenges, doing so well in her intervention groups and being motivated to do their absolute best. Pam loved any opportunity to sing in school and thoroughly enjoyed helping run the school choir.

Many staff members would like to say their goodbyes at her funeral and we will try to facilitate it so those who wish to attend can. This may mean we go off timetable for part of a day and move staff around to ensure coverage across each of our classes. We thank you for your understanding with this.

If you require any support or guidance on how to talk to your child/children at home about this sensitive issue, please do not hesitate to contact me or you can visit the following websites:

- <https://www.winstonswish.org.uk>
- <https://www.macmillan.org.uk>

We will be supporting the MacMillan coffee morning on Friday 27th September in memory of Pam and will be inviting all parents, governors, staff and her family. More information will follow soon.

I would like to thank you all in advance for your understanding and support.

Kind regards,

Mrs Weavers
Headteacher