

MRS J. WALKER
HEADTEACHER



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Dear Parents,

It is with very mixed emotions that I sit in my office and write this letter. As you all know, I have been the headteacher at St James' Catholic Primary School for the last 17 years, it has always been a job that I have enjoyed and been very proud to do, but I have decided that the time is now right to take early retirement. I have recently written to the governors and my request has been granted... so this will be my final academic year as my term of office will finish at the end of the Summer Term, 31st August 2024.

I am letting you know so early as headteachers have to give 2 terms notice and I want to give the governing body as much time as possible to find a new head teacher for our wonderful school. The advert for a new headteacher will be going out at the beginning of December and I didn't want any of you to find out by seeing the advertisement on job advert websites or in the newspaper.

I have enjoyed every minute of working here in Hattersley and am very proud of all that we have done together but I want to retire whilst I am still young enough and healthy enough to enjoy it. Our children are all grown up and settled with lives of their own now and I want to have time to travel, do my many hobbies and help with the grandchildren.

The governors will now go through a process to appoint another headteacher to start in September 2024. I know that they will take this responsibility very seriously and will find someone eminently suitable to pass the baton on to. There is something very special about our school and I think it is a real testament to our community that there have only been 3 headteachers in the last 57 years!

I have loved working with you as a group of parents, with a fantastic staff in a friendly parish with supportive parish priests and a great team of governors.

There may be changes ahead but I can assure you it will be business as usual until next Summer!

J.A.Walker
Headteacher