



SJB/DE
15th July 2024

Dear Parent/Carer,

It is with very mixed feelings that I write my last letter home as Headteacher of Dene Magna School. The last few weeks have felt very surreal and I am so thankful for all of the kind words that people have said to me. To have been given the honour to serve this school and the wider community for the last 14 years has been amazing. I have learnt so much from you all and I will never be able to thank you for how you have helped shape me as a person.

I see this letter as a passing of the torch in many ways. My torch passes to Mr Mooney and the torch of any staff members who are leaving us will pass to those who come in to start their own journey with us.

We wish the following all the very best and thank them for their hard work and dedication to Dene Magna:

- Heather Vincent - Development Manager for the Forest of Dean Trust
- Lois Adams - Teacher of History
- Dan Hill - Teacher of English
- Alistair Tait - Teacher of Geography
- Ann Compton - Teacher of English
- Matt Bishop – now known as the Rt Hon. Matt Bishop MP for the Forest of Dean
- Charmaine Ogenda – Teaching Assistant

Conversely, we welcome the following to our community from September:

- Cian Hinchey - Teacher of Maths
- Harriet Morris - Teacher of History/Politics
- Kate Harris - Teacher of Geography
- Robert Goodwin - Teacher of English.

As we move through the last week of term I do need to remind you all that school is as normal until Friday. On Friday we will have our usual end of year assembly and I will have a chance to say my final goodbyes to everyone. School will finish at 12.00 noon and the school buses will be leaving soon after midday.

Unfortunately the Stagecoach bus cannot accommodate this time so if your son/daughter travels on this bus, please can we ask that you organise alternative transport at 12 noon.

Term starts again on Wednesday 4th September.

Mitcheldean, Gloucestershire, GL17 0DU
website: <https://www.denemagna.co.uk/>

Tel: 01594 542370 Fax: 01594 544862
email: reception@denemagna.gloucs.sch.uk

Deputy Headteacher: Fred Mitchell

Company registered in England at Abenhall Road, Mitcheldean, Glos, GL17 0DU. Company number 7695544



It feels like we have built up great momentum in reclaiming the Dene Magna culture this year. Relationships are great and we have a feeling that we are all pulling together for a common cause. My only requests for next year are that we push our attendance back up to where it used to be and that you all support Mr Mooney in his new role.

On a personal note, you will never truly know how you have all influenced me over the years. I have learnt so much from you as a community that I will take with me, not just in my new role, but for the rest of my life.

My final words to you come from a song I played in my first assembly to the school in January 2010. I hope these lyrics sum up what I wish for you all.

"I swear I'll never give in, I refuse. Is someone getting the best, the best, the best, the best of you"?

Thank you for everything; I hope that I helped get the best of you because you definitely helped get the best of me, and for that, I will always be grateful.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S Brady', with a stylized flourish at the end.

S Brady
Headteacher