



Executive Headteacher
Mrs G Gray

Associate Headteacher
Mrs K Tomlinson

Shevington Vale
Primary School

www.shevingtonvale.org.uk

Runshaw Avenue
Appley Bridge
Wigan, WN6 9JP
(01257) 253559

22 December 2016

Dear Parents and Carers

It has been such a privilege as well as an enormous pleasure to lead our schools over the past fifteen years.

Starting as a new head at Millbrook in 2001, then adding Shevington Vale in 2010 and finally Shevington Community over two years ago – as you can imagine I have had so many amazing experiences – most absolutely brilliant and great fun too!

I have led the schools through such huge changes in education that our current systems are almost unrecognisable from those of fifteen years ago. Schools are now judged more rigorously and are more accountable with far higher standards than I could have imagined when I started teaching. This makes the job more exciting and challenging and I always did love a challenge!

Throughout I have had one simple principle - that every decision I made would benefit the children in my care and be in their best interests.

I hope that overall I have done that successfully and given many children a good start in life – educationally that is! I have always been grateful for how parents and carers have worked with me in this.

And now I am very happy to hand over the reins of leadership to Mrs Tomlinson who has been firmly at my side for ten years and whose beliefs and passion are the same as mine.

This is a tricky time for our Federation. We came together to improve education, to share ideas and resources, to benefit from a larger pool of talented and experienced teachers and support staff and mostly that has worked really well. The Governing Body, Mrs Tomlinson and her leadership team will continue to work tirelessly with the same aim of providing the best for all children regardless of where they are taught. That's exactly what is needed now regardless of the issues that they can't control.

As for me – well now it's time to become a more 'hands-on' grandma and I am looking forward to that very much.

I will miss my colleagues and the many, many friends that I have made over the years and most of all I will miss your wonderful children. I am so grateful for the kindness and support I have received over the years from people too numerous to name here. (I am of course leaving my daughter behind to keep an eye on things!)

Otherwise I know that the Governors, Mrs Tomlinson and her team will continue to enjoy your support in the next stages of their work, whatever the future holds.

And finally I wish you and your families a very happy and peaceful Christmas.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Gray
Executive Headteacher