

July 2024

Dear Brent Knoll Families,

We hope you and your children have had a wonderful year and are looking forward to the summer holidays.

While everyone needs time away from their daily routines to rest and recharge, we understand that holidays can be challenging for some young people who struggle with changes in routine. If this is the case for your child, please reach out to your class team. They can provide guidance, advice and signposting to other resources which may help pupils to cope with the change in routine over the summer and understand when school will resume.

Throughout the year, the Governors have had the absolute pleasure of regularly visiting the school as a part of our duties. However, the most rewarding part of their visits is always seeing our pupils engaged in lessons, sports, play, and learning vital life and independence skills. Watching our pupils grow and succeed is why we volunteer; to support the unique Brent Knoll community. We are continually amazed by our young people. We also want to extend our gratitude to our families for their unwavering support of both our pupils and staff. Working together makes a significant difference in improving outcomes for our young people.

There have been numerous successes this year. Two highlights that come to mind include our talented Makaton Choir competing in the Final of Jack Petchey's Glee Club Challenge, where they achieved an impressive 5th place out of 12 finalists. Additionally, Andy received a Silver Award for Lifetime Achievement from the Teaching Awards, a remarkable accomplishment. Few schools can boast of having pupils perform at the O2 Indigo and a Head Teacher awarded such a prestigious accolade in the same year!

It is with mixed emotions that we announce the departure of our highly respected and valued Head Teacher, Andy, this week. We will miss him greatly. Andy has shared stories of his long history with Brent Knoll, and we are extremely thankful that his 'fortunate twist of fate' led him to our school all those years ago.



Andy's numerous contributions over the past 26 years are too extensive to list here, but it is safe to say that our entire community, both past and present, has benefited from his kind, compassionate, and inspirational determination to provide a safe, caring, and well-rounded educational experience. His leadership has enabled pupils to learn, progress, and develop skills to achieve their full potential.

The Governing Body recognizes and deeply appreciates the positive changes and impact Andy has made during his tenure. We extend our sincerest thanks and appreciation to Andy for everything he has done. Thank you, Andy. We wish you every success in your future endeavours, knowing you will continue to 'Be The Best That You Can Be'!

We hope to see as many of you as possible at Thursday's Achievements Assembly to bid Andy a fond farewell. He deserves the loudest and most heartfelt applause from the community he has served so well.

Stay safe and well, and we look forward to seeing you all in September!

With warm regards,

Laura, Simon, Cheryl, Cara, Rohan, Catherine, James, Irene, Gina and Kristina.