Whitecote Primary School

Headteacher: Frances Stead

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27th October 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

I am writing on behalf of the Governing Body to share some important news about the leadership of Whitecote Primary School.

After many years of dedicated service to the school, our Headteacher, Frances Stead, has informed the Governing Body of her decision to retire at the end of this academic year, on 31 August 2027**.**

Frances has shown enormous commitment to Whitecote, its children, families and staff throughout her time as Headteacher. Her leadership has always been driven by wanting the very best for every child, and she has played a significant part in shaping the school and the caring, inclusive community that we have today.

Although her retirement is still some months away, we felt it was important that parents and carers heard this news directly from the Governing Body. Frances will, of course, continue to lead the school with the same commitment and dedication throughout the remainder of the academic year.

The Governing Body will now begin the important process of planning for the future leadership of Whitecote. We recognise how important this appointment will be for our children, staff and wider school community and will approach it with great care. We will keep parents and carers informed as the process progresses.

There will be plenty of time later in the year to celebrate Frances's contribution to Whitecote and to give children, families, staff and governors the opportunity to wish her well for her retirement. For now, I know you will join the Governing Body in thanking Frances for everything she continues to do for our school.

Yours sincerely,



Lucy Barr
Chair of Governors
Whitecote Primary School