

Tuesday 8th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers

Future change to leadership arrangements

Welcome back to all our families after what I hope has been a happy and restful summer. A particularly warm welcome goes to those families who are joining the St. Clement's & St. John's and Bethany community for the first time.

I am writing to tell you that our Headteacher, Mr. Lawrence Woodward, will be leaving his role at October half term.

It has been a genuine pleasure to work alongside Mr. Woodward, whose compassionate and thoughtful leadership has been a great strength to both schools. He has served as Headteacher of Bethany for the past ten years and, over the last two years, has extended his expertise and leadership across St. Clement's & St. John's as well.

Mr. Woodward's connection with our schools stretches back even further. He first joined St. Clement's & St. John's as a teacher in 2007, and throughout his time with our school communities, he has shown an unwavering commitment to providing the very best opportunities for every child in his care.

Mr. Woodward feels that now is the right time to move onto something different. I am delighted that Mr. Woodward will continue to work within Coastal Learning Partnership (CLP), and so he will not be too far away.

From 2nd November, the schools' Headteacher will be Miss. Janine Harries. Miss. Harries has extensive school leadership experience, including headship across both infant and primary schools. As an existing Headteacher within CLP, I am delighted that Miss. Harries is coming to St. Clement's & St. John's and Bethany, building on Mr. Lawrence's good work and taking the schools forward together.

Mr. Woodward and Miss. Harries have been Headteacher colleagues within CLP for the last six years. They enjoy a high level of professional respect for each other. In the coming weeks, they will be working closely together to ensure that Miss. Harries is 'ready and set' to start after half term. No doubt you will have the opportunity to meet Miss. Harries on one of her visits to the schools before she starts.



I would like to end by thanking Mr. Woodward for his extended service to these schools and their communities. He has made strong and positive relationships with the community and the families of both schools, and this is central to their character and success. Mr. Woodward will be missed when he leaves at the end of this half term, but he has our warm thanks for the positive contribution he

has made. I know that Mr. Woodward shares my confidence in Miss Harries' ability to take the schools forwards.

Thank you for your continued support of our schools.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Paul Howieson". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Mr Paul Howieson
CEO, Coastal Learning Partnership