



Parents, Carers,

Three key staff members and one dedicated governor retire this Christmas from Rushmere Hall Primary School all at the same time! All four of these people are 'Truly Rushmere' – they give 150% to ensure the children get the very best and they go the extra mile! They are focused on ensuring the children are safe, learn well and are happy. All four of these people would cringe at any attention being brought upon them (let alone a newsletter devoted to them!) but I feel that it is super important that their contribution to Rushmere is recognised and celebrated and we are going to miss them all!

Mr Fykin

Head teacher

Site Manager - Keith Pennock

Keith Pennock (Site Manager) has been opening, closing and maintaining this complex site for a number of years. He has ensured this building is safe and accessible every single day for the children of Rushmere Hall. During the snow, he is the man who is out in the playground clearing the paths and making the school safe for the children. He starts early and stays late for our staff and is always happy to help out! Every time the alarms are triggered, he's got out of bed and come to school to secure it and check for vandalism. In the whole time he has been at Rushmere, he has never complained! He is a respected member of staff who will be sorely missed! Our staff think the world of him!

On behalf of staff, parents and pupils at Rushmere, I would like to wish Keith the very best of luck in his retirement.

Over the next few days, I would love for you to show Keith your appreciation. He is a diamond geezer and we have been blessed to have him here as our Site Manager.

HLTA – Susie Copsey

Susie Copsey (HLTA) has been one of Rushmere's longest serving staff members. She has worked in all areas of the school but more recently has been based in the Speech and Language hub working alongside Rosina Cleave. Susie has been a champion for all. She has raised the confidence and self-esteem of the children she works with by being positive, kind and enabling them to see how good they can be. Susie is not one of the staff members who you often get to see. She gets on with the job and does it superbly. She is totally focused on ensuring she gives her absolute best for the children in her care. I listen in my office as she is meeting and greeting the children who arrive in the taxis and her manner and relationship with the children is exceptional. She is genuinely pleased to see the children and they feel it! Rosina Cleave will no doubt miss her teaching partner and has nothing but amazing things to say about Susie. Susie's commitment to this school has been unwavering and she will be missed both by staff and children.

On behalf of staff, parents and pupils at Rushmere, I would like to wish Susie the very best of luck in her retirement. She isn't fully retired though... she will return to do some volunteering with us because she won't be able to keep away!

The staff and children will no doubt give her an amazing send off. A truly wonderful member of staff!

HEAD COOK – Tracey Ashworth

Tracey has been feeding the children of Rushmere for a number of years. It is a mammoth task feeding our 650 children and Tracey has done it in style. Trying to please everyone is a very difficult job but on 99.9% of the time, she is able to do it! The best judge of the food here is Suffolk's number one food critic. Me! This is the first place that I have actually eaten school dinners, as I am particularly fussy! The food she serves is delicious and unlike other places I've worked; it's recognisable!

The best memory the children will have of Tracey is her wearing her Christmas outfits and dancing behind the counters with the other dinner staff.

GOVERNOR – Elaine Collins

Elaine Collins (Governor) has been on the governing body for a long time supporting and challenging the school leaders to make sure the children who attend get the absolute best. She was part of the Governing body who helped keep the school stable through its difficult times. She championed the staff, provided support where it was needed and challenged decision making to ensure that Senior Leaders were held to account for the school's performance.

She was also part of the panel who selected me for the role as Head teacher for which I am extremely grateful. Elaine's contributions to the Governing body will be missed. Her teaching background and understanding of the school is so valuable. She will still be seen in and around school carrying our booster groups for Year 3 children and supporting our teaching of phonics.

On behalf of the staff, parents and pupils, I would like to thank Elaine for giving up her time to help ensure this school is heading in the right direction for all the children who attend it.

Autumn Term 2

THIS TERM ENDS ON WEDNESDAY 19th DECEMBER 2018

Staff training day on Wednesday 2nd January 2019

SCHOOL STARTS AGAIN – Thursday 3rd January 2019