Paganel Governors' Update

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Dear parents, carers and friends of Paganel

Happy New Year to you. We look forward to a good year at Paganel, with an expanded building and growing number of pupils, whilst striving to retain the level of care and support of which I think the staff and governors are rightly proud.

Having said that, I'm sorry to be writing to announce that Mr Shufflebottom has submitted his resignation and will be leaving Paganel at the end of the summer term. Following the illness of his wife in 2015, they have made the decision to retire to the Lake District. I know you will want to join with the governors in wishing them all the very best for this next chapter of their life.

They made the decision to retire before the Ofsted inspection last summer and it is testament to his commitment to Paganel that Martin worked untiringly last term to address the issues highlighted by the inspectors. I know he will continue to do so over the next two terms.

There will be a time to say goodbye and express our appreciation but, at this stage, I do want to briefly pay tribute to all Martin's hard work at Paganel over the past eight years. When he came to Paganel, it was a school struggling to deliver for its pupils. His passion that every child deserves the very best education and opportunities (with great support from the staff team) marked out a path for the school to be turned around. He should be rightly proud of what the school has become.

The appointment of a new head teacher is the most important thing the governors will do next year but I offer my reassurance that it will be at the top of the governors' priority list in the coming months. We will obviously keep you informed as matters progress.

Whilst this will offer a big challenge in 2016, there remains much to look forward to this year. My thanks to you all in anticipation of your support as we move forward, and particularly to the teachers, teaching assistants and support staff, who I know will pull together to make it work, as they did despite many difficult moments in 2015.

With very best wishes for the year ahead,

Martyn Sargeant

On behalf of the governing body