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Friday, 1st September 2023

Staffing Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great sadness that I must share some devastating news with you at the start of this term. As many of you will know, Miss. Jess Field one of our Year Two teachers was expecting a baby later this year. Although expecting a little baby girl, a baby boy, Edward Adrian, was born very prematurely at just 26 weeks on the 24th July, weighing just 485g. However, on the 27th July, Edward sadly passed away.

The loss of a child is a tragedy that words can scarcely capture. As a close-knit community at Green Ridge, we understand that this news may also impact your children, especially those who have been taught by Miss. Field over the last year or two, or who were expecting to be taught by her this term. It is our intention to communicate the news to all pupils upon their return to school on Monday, in an age-appropriate and sensitive way. For those pupils who were in Year Two last year, and those who were due to be taught by her this term, I will speak with the children personally on Monday with class teachers and support staff. All other pupils will be informed through their classes, so that discussions can be best managed in an age-appropriate manner. Whilst it would not always be appropriate to share family bereavements of staff with all pupils, the unique nature of this situation will leave pupils questions about why she is not in school as anticipated. Pupils in Nursery, Reception and Year One will not be informed of this news, given their age and lack of acquaintance with Miss. Field.

Once the pupils in Years Two to Six have been informed, children may have questions and feelings they wish to express, and we encourage you to create a safe space for them to do so. Our Pastoral Lead, Mrs. Cavanagh, leaders, teachers, and support staff will also be available to provide assistance to any children who may need it.

In the coming days and weeks, we will be organising ways in which our school community can show our care and support for Miss. Field and her family. We will keep you informed about any tributes that we plan to arrange. If you would like to extend your condolences, you may do so by writing a heartfelt message or creating a card that we will collect and deliver to Miss. Field, if you pass them onto one of the office team.

Grief can be an overwhelming emotion, and we encourage open communication at home about this topic. If you have any concerns about your child's emotional wellbeing or need guidance on how to address this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to Mrs. Cavanagh through the school office; she has a great amount of training and experience in dealing with such emotions and conversations with children of all ages.

In times like these, our unity as a community is what provides comfort and strength.

We extend our deepest sympathies to Jess, Adrian, and their families. May we all offer our unwavering support in the weeks and months to come.

Yours faithfully,



Mr. Aaron Wanford
Headteacher