

12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear families,

It is with great sadness that I have to announce what seems like the end of an era for our school with news of the imminent retirement of Mr Sowden. After dedicating nearly 20 years to the children, staff and our school he will be retiring on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> March. I'm sure you'll all agree that it won't be the same around here without his cheery presence on the yard in a morning, his support at school events (he loves a disco) and his caring and kind way which all the children over many years have come to know and love.

Mr Sowden has made no secret of the fact he is ready to retire to spend time with his family and friends and of course, to enjoy time at his caravan at Mablethorpe with his wife Sylvia. We will be sad to see him leave us and want to send him off 'in style' by holding some special events leading up to his final day which I will communicate with you nearer the time.

Mr Sowden is happy for us to inform all our school community and will no doubt be telling you all shortly about his fabulous retirement cruise and many plans! If you have any old photos of Mr Sowden from over the years we would really appreciate these so please email them into school and we will contact you shortly about other ways in which we can all come together to celebrate his time as caretaker of our lovely school.

Thank you for all your support,



Kate Rayner Headteacher

