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*Headteacher Lynn Harrison*

Monday 16<sup>th</sup> September 2024

Dear Pupils and Parents (past and present), Governors and Staff,

I would like to send my heartfelt thanks and appreciation for the surprise event on Friday! I was, and still am to be honest, completely overwhelmed by the love and kindness from you all. A special thanks to Jess for organising everything and to all those who helped her. The food looked amazing, as did the 2 special cakes in my honour, one with my photo on and the other beautifully iced with the number 20!

The video clips from the pupils were adorable, so touching and I shall treasure them all. I am completely amazed that not one pupil mentioned them! The gift voucher, champagne and beautiful flowers were so very generous of everyone, and I shall very much look forward to a relaxing stay and a spoil in that amazing hotel in the near future, so THANK YOU all so much!

What I wanted to say on the night, is that it is a delight and honour to be a small part of so many childrens' lives. To watch them grow and develop, hear of their achievements and the accomplishments in their adult life is such a privilege. I just love my job and the last 20 years have flown by! That said, I couldn't do what I do without the support and hard work of the whole school team and Governors, who are all as committed as I am to provide the very best for your children. Eirian has been at school longer than I have.

Mrs Lupton joined the school as a newly qualified Teaching Assistant at the same time as me and Mrs Sweetman came into school once a week to teach French, she joined the team the very next September. So the three of us have been in school 20 years together.

Jess Storey, Mrs Blackley, Miss Pennington and Miss Simpson all trained with us at school and remained with us after qualifying (and I have taught/am teaching their children too)! 10 years ago, Mrs Evans joined the team, Mrs Lawson joined in 2018, Louise became a lunchtime organiser soon after moving to the village. Mr Harrison became the class 3 teacher in 2020, Julie became the school cook just over 2 years ago and Miss Hughes joined us last Easter. Natalie is our newest member of staff, joining us earlier this year.

The board of Governors are so supportive and dedicated, too, Mike Ridley has been a governor for more than 20 years, Ian Gibson has been in post for more than a decade, Ryan Patterson has been a governor for 3 years and Joe March joined us last year.

I am so proud to be a part of this happy and thriving school where children enjoy their education and know that they are cared for.

Thank you from the bottom of my heart for a lovely evening, I was so touched that so many people came or sent their best wishes. I felt very, very special!

Yours sincerely

*Lynn Harrison*