

8th September 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was September 1989 when I took up my first teaching job, and ever since then the 'first week of September' has meant 'school'. This is the first time EVER I have been unwell and missed the first week of school!

I didn't miss the whole week. I had a great INSET day with the Staff on Friday 1st, and had a joyous day on Monday in both schools. I was so proud of all the children. The way they came into school so happily and calmly and settled so quickly into their new classes, despite any first day nerves, was wonderful to see.

I've been keeping in touch with the staff throughout the week and they tell me that this good start has continued – though I am sure everyone is rather tired now!

My thanks go to Anna Woodward, Sahrah Chaudhri and Megan Cunnington who has so ably kept the show on the road in my absence – through this extremely hot week – and to the entire staff teams at both schools. We're lucky to have such dedicated professionals working so hard for our children.

I'm concentrating on getting fighting fit and am looking forward to seeing you and the children after the weekend (and hearing about the St Mary's 'camp-out'!)

Best wishes

Sarah Lewis

Headteacher

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