Dear Parents and Carers

**Headteacher  vacancy**

I am writing to bring you up to date on the decisions the governing body has taken in respect of the replacement of Tessa Thomas who is leaving us at the end of December.

These are really exciting times for Ashton Park.  We are in a good place in terms of our development.  We are oversubscribed, we have had a “good” OFSTED Inspection and above all we have a strong a resilient staff team who we believe can take our school to the next level.    Following careful consideration and thought, the governing body have made the following decisions:-

1.       We will make an interim headteacher appointment until  31st August 2017.  We believe it is essential to maintain continuity and build on our achievements over the last two years.  We also have a great deal of confidence in the current senior leadership team.  In addition, the timing of Tessa’s departure means it will be very difficult for us to recruit a permanent headteacher quickly.

2.       The permanent role will be advertised nationally next Autumn so the successful candidate can take up post by 1 September 2017.

3.       There will be a robust recruitment process to appoint the Interim Headteacher. This will be led by a committee of six governors - five of whom are parents with children currently at Ashton Park.

4.       We hope to complete the recruitment of the interim Headteacher next month.

I will contact you again with an update by the end of November.  In the meantime, I hope this is helpful.

Yours sincerely

**Mark Williams**

**Chair of Governors**