



## HANDCROSS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Headteacher: Mrs Gillian Pedersen

Monday 18<sup>th</sup> June 2018

Dear Parents and Carers

### Roadworks

Last week, I had a meeting with the manager of Triconnex who explained to me that there are to be approximately four weeks of roadworks outside the school from 25<sup>th</sup> June to 20<sup>th</sup> July while gas pipes are laid to connect the new Hoadlands housing estate to the mains supply.

From approximately 25<sup>th</sup> June to 5<sup>th</sup> July, the works will only affect pedestrians coming to the Health Centre from the High Street because they will be laying the trench in part of the pathway adjacent to the Health Centre car park, rather than in the road. They will be installing plastic matting on the grass verge to ensure that pedestrians have a decent surface on which to walk.

From approximately 5<sup>th</sup> July to 13<sup>th</sup> July there will be a stretch of the road adjacent to the Health Centre/ Recreation Ground which will only have a single lane of traffic and there will be two-way traffic lights in place.

From approximately 13<sup>th</sup> July to 20<sup>th</sup> July they need to work on the mini-roundabout and this will require the use of three-way traffic lights.

Obviously, the traffic lights will cause delays for us all, especially at peak times. The manager assured me that between 7.00am and 9.30am and between 3.30pm and 6.30pm, the traffic would be directed by the workmen rather than traffic lights. They will be able to respond appropriately to the length of the tail back at each of the entries to the roundabout.

I hope I have got these details right. I thought you would appreciate having the advanced notice so that you can adjust your journeys – if possible.

### Mrs Cozens Retires

Sadly, I have to announce that Mrs Cozens, our longest serving member of staff, will be retiring at the end of the term. She has been working here for 20 years and has been one of the strong and central pillars that have supported the successful development and growth of the school in recent years; she has played a crucial role in making Handcross Primary into a great place in which to work as a pupil or a member of staff. She is an extremely gifted and talented teacher, particularly in planning of the creative curriculum; Mrs Cozens has been the lead in the development of the wonderful, rich curriculum that the children enjoy across the school today. She has inspired and motivated not only the children that she teaches, but also many of our younger teachers with her wonderful ideas and imaginative resources.

Mrs Cozens has always worked exceptionally hard and been completely dedicated to the education and well-being of all the children in her charge. She becomes genuinely



excited if the children succeed in reaching challenging targets. We have so much to thank her for, but we should also be pleased that she can have the opportunity to have a more relaxed time for herself and her family after all these years of unstinting hard work and effort. It is so well deserved. She will be missed very much because not only is she an exemplary teacher, but also a loyal, kind and generous friend to us all, always finding time in her busy days to lend a warm and sympathetic ear if we are troubled, or to give some sound advice if we are struggling with a professional dilemma.

### **Miss Stratton is Getting Married**

I am very happy to announce that Miss Stratton is getting married in August and we wish her and her husband-to-be, Ben, a very long and happy marriage. Sadly though, this means that she will also be leaving us at the end of the term because the newly-weds will be setting up a home in London, closer to where Ben works, so that he does not have to make that tedious commute to work every day from Mid-Sussex. Owing to this, Miss Stratton applied for a teaching job in a one form entry primary school in Mayfair and she was successful. So, congratulations to her!

Miss Stratton is an excellent teacher who is a wonderful cheerful presence around the school – which we will miss. She has led PE and IT for several years and these subjects have thrived under her leadership. She has always been a very generous volunteer when it comes to organising extra and special events for the school, the latest one being the Dance-a-thon. (I have to stop her from taking on too much sometimes!) You will be happy to hear that we have found a really good replacement for Miss Stratton for September.

### **Class organisation next year**

We just need to clarify a couple of details on our class organisation arrangements for next year and then I will notify you of these shortly in a letter. However, I can let you know now that we have decided that all classrooms will keep their names permanently from now on, regardless of the year group of the children. This will avoid all the unnecessary confusion which ensues when we change classroom names.

Thank you for all your support.

Kind regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gill Pedersen', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Gill Pedersen