



'Creating New Futures'

Newlands Primary School

Dumpton Lane

Ramsgate

CT11 7AJ

01843 593 086

office@newlands-tkat.org

Headteacher: Mr D.Bailey

21st February 2022

Dear All,

It is with the greatest sadness that I write to inform you of the passing of one of our teachers, Mrs Leanne Johnson. Leanne was beginning to recover from a stroke but was then diagnosed with Leukaemia. She passed away in hospital with her husband at her side in the early hours of Sunday morning.

Leanne's passing has caused great shock and sadness amongst staff, but I also understand the upset this news will bring to her class, Walpole Bay, along with all of the children of Newlands. Leanne was an incredible person and a true inspiration to others, having recently realised her ambition to become a teacher. She was a fantastic teacher, kind and caring with real empathy for the children of Newlands. Leanne will be an enormous loss to both Newlands and the teaching profession.

As children return to school tomorrow, staff will welcome them back at their usual entrances for them to come into class, then we will share the news with children in their classrooms and teachers will speak more openly about Leanne with them. All children will be encouraged to speak to staff members with whom they feel comfortable and we will support the children in the best way that we can. I understand that some parents and carers will be keen to discuss the sad news of Leanne's passing at home, before the children return. Staff also understand that some children will return without hearing the news. Please encourage your child to speak sensitively about Leanne's passing and across the school we will timetable additional PSHE lessons so that we can explore and understand feelings around bereavement in an age appropriate way.

In the coming weeks, we will liaise with Leanne's family to find a suitable way of remembering Leanne at Newlands. We would like to have a lasting memorial for Leanne that reflects her warmth, positivity and radiant smile. In the meantime, any cards or messages for Leanne's family can be delivered to the school office and we will ensure they are passed on.

Leanne leaves her husband Simon and three children and we keep them all in our thoughts at this difficult time.

Yours sincerely,

Mr David Bailey
Headteacher

