

Headteacher: Jayne Mullane N.P.Q.H.
Deputy Headteacher: Claire Varetto N.P.Q.H.

Valley Road
Heaton Mersey
Stockport SK4 2BZ

Phone/Fax: 0161 442 7535
headteacher@merseyvale.stockport.sch.uk
www.merseyvale.stockport.sch.uk



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Dear parents/ carers,

I am writing to inform you that I will be leaving Mersey Vale at the end of the spring term 2021. I will be retiring early in order to spend more time doing other things that I love; spending time with family including my granddaughter who was born earlier this year, travelling and generally enjoying life without the pressures and challenges of being a Headteacher.

Naturally I will be very, very sad to leave Mersey Vale and I will deeply miss the whole school community. I have spent 18 very happy and enjoyable years here since I joined as Deputy Headteacher and Y5/ Y6 teacher in 2002 and have loved being Headteacher of our very special, wonderful school for the past 16 years. During this time it has been a pleasure and a privilege to work with you and your children. Our Mersey Vale family will always hold a special place in my heart.

I would particularly like to thank parents and carers for your support and help during my time as Headteacher. Along with amazing children, our fantastic staff team and governing body who are passionate about improving the education and well-being of our children, you have enabled Mersey Vale and its diverse school community to thrive. I have loved working here and building relationships with everyone as well as seeing hundreds of children develop and flourish as confident, happy, successful, caring young people.

To me Mersey Vale is a small, friendly school which has the concept of inclusion and partnership at the centre of all that it strives to achieve. We have made continual progress and improvements in many areas; in teaching and learning and in changes to the building, grounds and school environments. When I joined there were around 160 children grouped in mixed aged classes, the school had recently had a disappointing Ofsted inspection and there was a risk of closure. The whole staff team and our Governing Body have worked tremendously hard together to transform Mersey Vale, but improvements made would not have been possible without the support of parents and carers. I have learnt a huge amount during my time here and I am very proud of the part I have played in making Mersey Vale the thriving school that it is today.

The Governing Body has begun the process of appointing a new Headteacher and I wish Governors every success in securing an appropriate successor. I am confident that Mersey Vale will continue to thrive and provide your children with high quality educational experiences that will enrich their lives. I look forward to spending the time until I leave ensuring that our school continues to move forward to be the best that it can be.

I hope that you all have a lovely half term holiday and that you and your families stay safe and well.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs. J. Mullane
Headteacher

