



6<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear Parents,

It is with a very heavy heart that I write to you today to inform you about the sad death of our long-standing colleague and friend at Bowes, Di Moore.

After working at Bowes for over 3 decades, Di made the decision to start her retirement in July 2020. Unfortunately, not long after this, Di was diagnosed with cancer, and sadly passed away this Saturday. During this time, not only did she show immense courage and resilience, she also continued to protect her loved ones and friends by keeping her journey private.

Before her retirement, Di was the Head of School at our Bowes Southgate Green site and was admired by the children and families of this small community. For those of you who knew Di well, I am sure you will agree with me when I say that she was extremely generous with her time, comfort and support for all the children and many families. Di was highly respected within the staff team and mentored me personally throughout my career and 15 years of working with her. This is true of many other staff members, including the entire Senior Leadership Team.

Di transferred from the New Southgate site to Southgate Green in September 2016. The children who have always been at the New Southgate site will not have had the pleasure of meeting Di, in contrast to the children in our current Years 3-6, who attended Southgate Green and knew her well. We have therefore made the decision to share this sad news with the following classes:

- Mississippi Class
- Niagara Class
- Amazon Class
- Sargasso Class

The children will be told this morning by their class teacher. The teachers are fully prepared to support the children with the delivery of the news, paying particular care to our more vulnerable pupils. Your child may or may not want to talk about it, but it is likely that they will need your special care, attention and reassurance at this upsetting time. Please [click on this link](#) for advice and support for parents.

There may also be some children who transferred from Southgate Green to New Southgate who knew Di well, however we will not be sharing the news with any other classes. We would therefore suggest that the parents of any children who this may affect could speak to their child at home if they wish to. If you would like some support, please let the school know via your class teacher or the school office and we will be happy to help.

Our thoughts are with Di's family at this difficult time and the whole school community sends them our deepest sympathy and support. Further information regarding a memorial will be arranged in consultation with Di's family.

If you have any questions or comments, please do not hesitate to contact me. If you feel that your child needs extra support, please let us know.

Yours sincerely,

Effie Demetriou  
**Headteacher**