



Blagdon Nursery School

Federated with Caversham and New Bridge Nursery Schools

Executive Head Teacher: Joanne Budge B.Ed, M.A.

Head of School: Charlotte Jennings BA(QTS)



"Start with the child and everything will follow"

Monday 8th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have had a lovely Christmas break with your families and loved ones.

I have some very sad news to share with you. It is with great sorrow that I have to inform you of the passing of one of our wonderful Early Years Practitioners. Gemma Johnson died suddenly a few days before Christmas.

Gemma only joined our Blagdon family in October but her beautiful spirit, warm laugh and smile and her caring nature meant that she took the hearts of the children, staff and parents. As one member of staff said "Gemma, you were as your name says, a true gem. The purest and most beautiful soul and you completed our team".

We are thankful to the bright light Gemma shone around her and will miss her deeply. Our warmest thoughts and condolences go to her family and friends.

We will be sharing this news sensitively with your children in small groups when they return to nursery and answering any questions they may have at the time. Nursery routines will continue as normal as we find this is the most reassuring for everyone in these circumstances.

I am sure many of you will join us in extending your condolences to Gemma's family and a book of remembrance will be available in the office from tomorrow if you wish to sign it.

As a staff group we will be discussing ways to remember Gemma within our nursery family and I will update you when I have more information.

For now, please take care of yourself and each other.

With warmest Regards

J. Budge

Joanne Budge
Executive Headteacher - REYS Federation



Blagdon Nursery School is proud to be part of the Reading Early Years Schools Federation

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