



10th November 2025

Dear Parents, Carers, and Members of the Barrs Court Community,

It is with deep sadness that I write to share the news that our much-loved colleague and friend, Miss Paine, has passed away. Miss Paine had been a part of the Barrs Court family since 2013. Over the years, she taught across the school and led the development of reading and writing. Her commitment and passion have had a lasting impact on hundreds of children, and the foundations she helped to build will continue to benefit pupils for years to come.

She will be remembered for her kindness, her warmth, her love of dancing and her unwavering dedication to always putting others first. As a colleague and friend, she brought joy, generosity and strength to our team and she will be dearly missed by everyone.

We know this news will be upsetting for many in our school community. We will be speaking to the children in a sensitive and age-appropriate way. For some, particularly those who knew Miss Paine well, this may be a very difficult time. We will be doing this tomorrow.

We encourage you to speak with your child at home about any memories they have of Miss Paine. Sharing thoughts and feelings can help children make sense of loss and support their emotional wellbeing. If you feel your child may need additional support, or you would like help in approaching conversations about bereavement, the following resources may be helpful:

Supporting Children Through Bereavement

- Child Bereavement UK – Practical advice for talking to children of different ages: childbereavementuk.org/supporting-bereaved-children-and-young-people
- Winston's Wish - Winston's Wish offers free, accessible online grief support to children and young people (aged 25 or under): <https://winstonswish.org/>

We ask that you kindly respect the privacy of our staff as we come to terms with the loss of a dear colleague and friend. We will find a meaningful way to honour and remember Miss Paine's contribution to our school, and we will keep you informed of any arrangements.

Thank you for your understanding, compassion and support.

Daniel Webster
Headteacher