

**BURNT YATES CHURCH OF ENGLAND (VA)
PRIMARY SCHOOL**

Burnt Yates, Harrogate, North Yorkshire, HG3 3EJ

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Headteacher: Mrs J Palmer



16th November 2017

Dear Parents,

As you know, Ripley Governors have been undertaking due diligence to explore the possibilities of amalgamation with the school. Having gathered the relevant evidence from the school and also taken financial advice from the county council, the Ripley Governors met on Tuesday evening to consider their decision. Unfortunately, the process revealed a number of concerns surrounding the financial sustainability of the amalgamated school on two sites and this resulted in the decision not to proceed to the consultation on amalgamation.

We are of course bitterly disappointed with this result, especially after all the commitment and effort that everyone has put in to secure the future of the school. Naturally, you will be very concerned about the next steps that need to be taken. For this reason, a meeting will take place at Burnt Yates School at 6.30pm on Tuesday 21st November. This meeting will be attended by Diocesan and Local Authority representatives, including John Lee (Strategic Planner for NYCC) who will be able to inform you of the timescale for closure.

In consideration of the children, we plan to have a 'circle time' activity on Friday morning when we will discuss the closure of the school. This will allow the children to appreciate that we are here to support them and allow them to share their questions or concerns. This of course does not affect how you wish to share the information with your own children.

Finally, we would like to reassure you of our ongoing commitment to the children and the school for as long as it remains open. Also, we would like to thank you for your continued support during what has been an extremely challenging year.

In the meantime, if you have any questions or concerns do contact us. We look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

Kindest regards

Handwritten signature of Jean Tither in black ink.

Jean Tither (Chair of Governors)

Handwritten signature of Jacqui Palmer in black ink.

Jacqui Palmer (Headteacher)