

24<sup>th</sup> May 2010

Dear Parents/Carers

It is with enormous regret that I announce that I will be leaving Francis Combe at the end of this term.

I have been privileged to serve as the Headteacher/Principal of Francis Combe for four and a half years, and I am very proud of all that we have achieved in that period. With all performance indicators rising year on year, and increasingly becoming the school of choice for the community, Francis Combe is in far better shape than the school I inherited in April 2006. It is very well placed to continue this upward trend in the coming years, especially with the investment in new facilities that will transform the opportunities for our students.

I leave here to fulfil a lifelong yearning to work as a volunteer out in Africa. My first volunteer placement is for five weeks supporting a marine conservation project in the Seychelles, tracking and monitoring species such as sea turtles. Following that, and for the subsequent year I will be working in an orphanage in one of the Mombasa slums for orphans of HIV/Aids victims. There is a school there as well so I will see whether I can remember how to teach!

I will greatly miss everything about Francis Combe. It has been an unbelievable experience and I consider myself to be very lucky that, from day one, I have loved every minute of my job, working with students that I am so very proud of, an excellent and willing staff, and with parents and a local community that have embraced so much of the change that makes Francis Combe the wonderful place it is today.

Thank you for the excellent support you have given me over the years, I will never forget my time here – it has been a privilege and honour to serve you all.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Nicky Williams', with a horizontal line underneath.

Nicky Williams  
**Principal**