

DURHAM HIGH SCHOOL *for* GIRLS

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21st March 2011

Dear Parents

It is with very mixed feelings that I write to tell you I have informed the Governors that I intend to retire at the end of this academic year, the 31st August 2011.

I always knew it would be difficult to find the right time to leave. I have had a wonderful 13 years here at Durham High School and am conscious of the immense privilege of being able to serve such a fantastic school. Having taught in five GSA schools previously, before taking up my post here, none of them begins to compare with Durham High School for Girls. The community spirit, the talent and the friendliness of the girls and the commitment of the staff all are without peer. I shall miss everyone very much indeed.

I am, however, sure that now is the right time for me to retire and, more important, it is the right time for the school. I believe I have given all that I can to the school and have an absolutely wonderful, dedicated Senior Management Team of the highest calibre.

It is also right for me personally as, unexpectedly and to our great delight, my husband and I have found a post in the South of England where we can serve together in a parish. I have been appointed Priest-in-Charge of the United Benefice of Theale and Englefield which is just outside Reading and will work with my husband in the parish. We expect to take up our new posts in October.

The Upper Sixth have graciously agreed to share with me their Leavers' Service in the Cathedral on Wednesday 11th May at 2.30pm. I do hope some of you will want to come and join us in the Cathedral as we say thank you to God for all that the community of the High School has meant to us over the years. I hope the Junior Choir will contribute to that service, as well as the Senior choirs.

May I take this opportunity of thanking all of you for your support of the school and my leadership and say that I am convinced that Durham High School for Girls will go from strength to strength.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Ann Templeman
Headmistress