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Dear Clapham Community,

It is with excitement and with sadness that I am writing to you today to let you know that I have been successful in winning a Principal Consultant position. In this position I will be supporting preschools, primary schools and high schools in school improvement. I will start in this position in January 2022 and therefore my last day at Clapham Primary will be on the last day of Term 4 this year. Richard Costi, Education Director, will be speaking with our Governing Council to begin the process of advertising the principal position with the aim for the new principal to start in Term 1, 2022.

As sad as I am to be leaving Clapham, I know that I have been very fortunate to be part of Clapham Primary School community for the past six years. The teachers at Clapham are professional, dedicated, and talented educators. Each year, I have witnessed our staff strengthen and improve their planning and delivery of curriculum and their care, support and wellbeing of each student in their class. Their depth of knowledge of each student and the accommodations they make to meet individual needs is exceptional. The quality of teaching and learning goes from strength to strength each year, as staff collaborate, share, support and guide one another to be the best possible teacher.

Our teachers are supported by committed and professional student support officers, who are dedicated to provide valuable assistance across the school. Our front office staff ensure that the day-to-day operations of the front office are brilliantly efficient and importantly, welcoming, friendly, and helpful. SSOs supporting students are compassionate and caring, always wanting what is best. Our groundsperson works tirelessly to make our grounds look well maintained, and always neat and tidy. The staff at Clapham are happy, loyal and committed people who not only work hard but they also love to have fun, which makes this such a special place for us all. The leadership team is dedicated, supportive, committed, and always striving for ways to improve. A fabulous team to work with!

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Our students are just a delight and are engaged in their learning, wanting to do their best. Our students are inclusive, compassionate, helpful and kind to one another. I have noticed a positive shift in the respectful way students greet teachers and each other, their increased ability to think more about others, and take more risks to solve their own social and learning problems. I also find that when I ask students what they are learning and why they are learning it, they can enthusiastically articulate their response. Student learning achievement continues to grow, especially with our three-year improvement focus on maths and writing. Every time we have a relief teacher, they tell us at the end of the day they are more than happy to come back to Clapham to do relief teaching because of our supportive and welcoming school culture. Clapham students are happy, friendly and confident and this contributes enormously to the positive culture of our school.

As parents, you all want what is best for your child, and so your support of the school and teachers is vital for us working together. I am so appreciative of the efforts of our parent community and volunteers, whether it's listening to reading, attending a camp, attending Community Action Days, or being a member of Governing Council or a member on one of our many fabulous committees.

Clapham Primary is a great school and we are extremely privileged to work here. Next year I know that I will miss coming to Clapham each day.

Kindest Regards,

Jodie Kingham

Principal

6 September 2021