

# **ALDER COPPICE PRIMARY SCHOOL**

*Achievement through Commitment*

**Headteacher: Mr P Mandelstam**

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5 January 2026

Dear Parents

## **Mr David Haycock**

It is with great sadness that we are writing to inform you of the unexpected and untimely death of our beloved Site Manager, Mr David Haycock, during the holiday, following a short illness.

Known to everyone just as "Dave" he was a popular figure who got on with everyone – young and not so young, a real "old school" gentleman who would do anything for anyone. He had an endearing sense of humour and loved his job, so much so that he wanted to stay working with us long after the normal retirement age.

He would be on the gate first thing in the morning to welcome the Key Stage 2 children in and be there at the end of the day to see them out and chat with parents and grandparents. He has been a key part of our Alder Coppice family for 10 years and he will be greatly missed.

We had planned to share this news with the children today in special assemblies, but unfortunately the adverse weather conditions have prevented that. We also wanted to let you know at this time, as we are aware that many people already know this sad news and that so many of you will have known Dave.

We intend to hold a special event to commemorate, remember and celebrate Dave's time with us later in the term.

In the meantime, I know that you will join us in sending our sincere condolences and best wishes to Dave's wife, Jo and to their family at this time.

Yours sincerely,

*Peter Mandelstam*

Peter Mandelstam  
**Headteacher**

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