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**Tuesday, 27 September 2022**

Dear Parent/Carers,

As many of you know, our lead nursery teacher, Feryal, was diagnosed with cancer last summer and has been off work since receiving treatment.

It is with great sadness that I share with you that she passed away on the weekend.

Feryal was a truly gifted teacher with a passion for Early Years Education unmatched by any other professional I have ever worked with. She created an environment in our nursery which changed on a daily basis; responding to the needs and interests of her children and celebrating their cultures. She made sure each child felt a sense of belonging and joy.

She spent hours of her own time hand crafting her own resources to enhance the learning of our nursery children. She scoured markets and car boot sales on the weekends looking for special items to add to her treasure trove of resources, all of which delighted the nursery children.

She inspired the staff she worked with. Under her leadership, the nursery became one of my favourite places in the school. I would drop by whenever I needed a lift in spirits.

I am sure you will join with me in sending our heartfelt condolences to her husband, children, parents and wider family. Her family have expressed their thanks to the staff, and parents, who sent gifts and wishes to her over the course of her illness. They meant a lot to Feryal; she felt our love.

In the coming days, we will be doing our best to explain to the children about her passing with sensitivity and in age appropriate ways.

I will write to you again soon with news of how the school will celebrate her life and time with us.

Yours sincerely,

Ian Scotchbrook

Head teacher

