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Dear Parents/Carers

As you are aware, Miss Stringer has been absent from work since the beginning of September which was not part of her planned maternity leave. It is with a heavy heart that I share the sad news that Miss Stringer and her partner have lost their baby.

Miss Stringer is now ready to start her transition back to work and will be back at school from Monday 29th November. We ask that you respect her privacy at this time and we would ask you not to discuss her recent loss with her.

We have, in preparation for Miss Stringer's return, spoken to the children today in their PSHE lessons about grief and loss at the relevant age and maturity level for each class and we have told the children in Maple and Oak class why Miss Stringer has been absent from work. We would ask for you to support the children if they so wish. We have not told Willow Class about Miss Stringer's loss at this point as we felt it was beyond their level of understanding. We hope that the lessons and discussions have given the children the chance to ask relevant questions in a safe and open environment and helped them to gain a better understanding of the appropriate themes and emotions thus avoiding such interactions with Miss Stringer when she returns.

I fully appreciate that the Surfleet School community care deeply about our staff and I have no doubt that you will want to support Miss Stringer on her return to work. However, once again please can I ask you to refrain from buying any gifts or discussing her loss with her at this time.

Kind regards

Mr R Chipperfield
Head of School



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