

Ms Joan Morters, Headteacher of Wheatley Primary School, writes in  
WHEATLEY PRIMARY INFO on 11<sup>th</sup> January 2006

A brief autobiography of your new headteacher  
I hope you find it useful in getting to know me.

I taught in four primary schools in South London for many years and then moved out of London (to swap my flat for a house with a large garden) to become the deputy of a Church of England Primary in Wokingham, then headteacher of a school in Reading. I have taught all ages between 4 and 11.

I have attended various universities part-time to gain: a Maths diploma; a Physical Science degree; a Masters degree in Managing School Improvement.

With a New Opportunity Lottery Grant I started an after school club and a breakfast club. The school was awarded a third lottery grant for basket ball posts, courts and equipment.

Rich experiences are vital to encourage children to broaden their horizons so I take up any appropriate opportunity to do this. Visits, visitors, sporting, dramatic and the unusual. This may happen during the school day or out of hours depending on the opportunity.

I enjoyed developing the last school site and have gone through various building contracts including: the enlargement of four classrooms (we organised a grand opening with Dawn French); replacing all the windows and doors in the two older parts of the building; re-carpeting two thirds of the school; developing a foundation Stage area including outside covered and secure space. I also of course had to successfully bid for the funds to complete all these improvements.

I have always been a person who values and enjoys learning. In addition to numerous short education courses I have attended evening classes in dance, pottery and silver-smithing over the years. I have played squash, swam and jogged to keep me fit for work and play, I now attend a gym every week!

The love of learning is what we wish to foster in every child and member of staff, we do this by providing a broad and balanced curriculum, which is presented in an interesting and creative manner. The quality of the learning and teaching is of the utmost importance along with the culture and ethos of the school. Everyone needs to enjoy coming to school to ensure that every child achieves his/her potential. As I expect the staff to be role models for the children, I aim to be one for staff demonstrating on a daily basis not only positive caring relationships with the children, parents and staff but also enthusiasm about learning and wonder of life.

I have no problem laughing at myself, as I often spend my holidays in the middle of nowhere with barely the basic facilities because I was seeking a specific experience, like sitting in a rainforest at dawn listening to gibbons singing.

My interests include travel to remote areas, wildlife, theatre, reading, tapestry, DIY, gardening, and photography.

I am very happy to be at Wheatley and look forward to many happy and rewarding years to come. I would like to thank the children, parents, staff and governors for making me feel so welcome.

J Morters TD BA (Hons) MSc (Ms)