



School Lane
Crich
Matlock
Derbyshire
DE4 5DF

☎ 01773 852384

✉ info@crich-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

Monday 31st August 2026.

Dear Parents and Carers,

As I come to the end of my time as Headteacher, I want to express my heartfelt thanks for the kindness, generosity, and warmth you have shown me. The gifts, messages, and the beautiful assembly the children prepared were truly overwhelming. I was deeply moved by the thought and care behind every gesture, and I will carry those memories with me for many years.

It has been a privilege to work in the Crich community for over twenty years. This school, its families, and the wider village have shaped my career and my life in ways I will always treasure. Your children's curiosity, humour, resilience, and kindness have been the greatest joy of my work.

I also want to say a special thank you to the staff — not just colleagues, but friends. Their dedication, support, and good humour have made every challenge lighter and every success sweeter. I could not have asked for a better team to work alongside.

To you, our families, thank you for your support, trust, and partnership throughout my time here. It has meant more than I can ever fully express.

As I step aside, I want to wish the very best of luck to our new Headteacher, Catherine Wheatcroft. I know the school will continue to thrive under her leadership, and I am confident that the future holds exciting things for every child, every member of staff, and for the whole community.

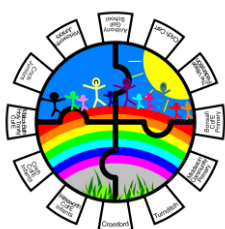
Thank you once again for everything. I leave with a full heart and immense pride.

With warmest wishes,

Chris Orridge

Headteacher.

Crich Junior School - our happy, caring community school



**Artsmark
Gold Award**
Awarded by Arts
Council England



Derby & Derbyshire Music Partnership