

# Meet the Head



Currently the head teacher at Bramley School & Nursery in Walton-on-the-Hill, Surrey, if **PAULA BURGESS** was in charge of our country for the day, the first she'd do would be to look at ways of enhancing the lives of the elderly and giving them a higher profile in society



When she does get time to herself, Paula Burgess enjoys dance, aerobics and yoga

**If you hadn't become a teacher, what would you have done instead?**

I would probably have gone to work in Africa, in particular to help women and children. Voluntary work appeals to me and I may still do this one day.

**What were your favourite lessons when you were a pupil?**

I always loved PE because I was good

**So, your Desert Island Disc...?**

I think it would be *Imagine* by John Lennon because it's a dream about living without war.

**Which is your favourite film?**

It has to be the recent hit, *The King's Speech*, starring Colin Firth, as it was all about someone overcoming difficulty – the film had a very powerful message.

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at cross-country – in fact, I actually represented Wales when I was about 12 or 13 years old.

**Was there any type of school dinner that you couldn't stand?**

No, I loved them all – including semolina! I was always the first to ask for the extra thick skin on top of the custard as well!

**Away from teaching, how do you like to relax?**

When I have the time, I like to relax by going to Latin dance classes, aerobics and yoga, and I also enjoy having meals with my family and friends as well.

**If you were Prime Minister for one day, what's the first thing you'd do?**

I would look into how the country could enhance the lives of senior citizens because they need particular care and assistance with illness and disability. The elderly should definitely have a higher profile in our society.

● Bramley School & Nursery, Chequers Lane, Walton-on-the-Hill, Tadworth, Surrey KT20 7ST, is an independent preparatory day school for girls aged from three to 11 years old. Tel: 01737 812004. For more information, see the school's website at [bramleyschool.co.uk](http://bramleyschool.co.uk)