



“...Let us remember that, as many hands build a house, so many hearts make a school.”

ST. PAUL'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

17th July 2020

Dear Parents/Carers

It has become customary on the last day of the year for me to sit and contemplate the year that is ending; reflect and reminisce about the success of the year, the joy of the children and the pride I feel in leading our school community through another academic year.

This has been a year unlike any other and as we started to put together the 1, 3 and 5-year plan together back in Term 1; at no point did an international pandemic feature. Having said that, I truly believe that it has pulled our community together even more so than before. I feel we have become more tolerant and patient in our approach and the children have benefited as a result. We have still achieved much across the school in terms of curriculum and building work, including the new PE store.

Three and a half years ago, I wrote to you as a new Headteacher and expressed my wish that the school become the school of choice and one where I would want my own children to attend. Indeed, we are so oversubscribed, that I can't get my children in despite my wish to! We continue to be the envy of the local area, the school that parents want their children to come to and a place where visitors respect what we have done educationally, socially, spiritually and morally.

As our Year 6 children move onto their next schools, they go with memories the same as no other; forever known as the 'Covid Kids'. However, despite the last months being one of lockdown, social distancing and handwashing, I hope they look back at their time at St. Paul's with fondness and return and regale us with their achievements. We are proud of them all and wish them good luck in the future. St. Paul's is a special place that lives long in the heart and the memory; evidenced this week, when a past pupil of the school from 1950, spoke with much pride about her time here. I hope that in time, they will look forward with confidence and look back with pride.

Whilst it is time to move on for the Class of 2020, so it is a time for St. Paul's to continue our journey of excellence. As ever, we never stand still; we are always looking at how we can improve and the next academic year will be no different. Over the summer holidays, the school never really closes and we will have some building and refurbishment work done, in preparation for the new school year, including a new trim trail on the playground, painted soffits across the school and a complete refurbishment of Maple class.

More than ever, I would like to thank you for a wonderful year; for your unwavering support and kindness to the staff and I. We wish you and your family a safe and blessed summer; thank you for making St. Paul's, the school that it is.

We look forward to seeing you, when your children return to school on Wednesday 2nd September 2020.

Yours faithfully

Mr Ben Hulme
Headteacher

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