



A Letter to the Leavers of 2020

16th July 2020

Dear Year 6

We hope you and your families are all in robust health and high spirits as we approach the finish line of your time here at St. George's Primary School. It has certainly been an unusual run-in. We appreciate that this was not what you would have imagined at the beginning of the year, as you first entered the Year 6 classrooms, armed perhaps with clear expectations of what your time in Year 6 at St. George's would be like. In this instance, as occasionally happens in life what we deserve and what we get are not always harmoniously aligned. In spite of this, there are a few things that we would like to share with you all before you make the exciting journey over to your secondary school.

Firstly, we have to say that it has been an honour for us to teach you all. You are the first Year 6 year group that have had their whole year altered with SATs and Carey both being cancelled due to a pandemic. Yet the way in which you have matured as a group of people and as individuals, and supported each other throughout the year, has really made a strong impression on us. When it was time to roll up the sleeves and do some serious learning, be it through "Target Writes" or test practice, you were ready and willing. Whilst you did not get the chance to showcase your hard-earned knowledge in the SATs (which you may or may not be disappointed by), the readiness you displayed towards hard work is an exceptionally promising quality. As you face the world now, be assured that you can be absolutely anything that you want to be in life so long as you are prepared to work hard for it. Keep working hard!

We recall the part in the book and movie "Wonder" where August says that everyone should have a standing ovation at some point in their lives. One of our biggest regrets this year is that we were not able to plan, rehearse and perform the Year 6 Leaver's Assembly and exhibit your musical and singing skills (as we have said all year – you have been the best year group at doing this in assemblies) and share your memories of your time at St. George's. We are certain that you would have been a resounding success in this and earned the ovation you deserved yourselves. You may have been robbed of it this year but that ovation is still owed to you. We know from interacting with you over the course of your time here that you all have your unique gifts and talents, ranging from storytelling to performing to sporting talent - they are too numerous and diverse to mention all of them by name. We hope you have the courage to keep nurturing these skills and practising them to perfection. For when the time comes, that ovation is going to ring loud and clear.

Finally, Year 6, we would like to congratulate each and every one of you for making it through this rollercoaster of a year and over the finish line. Adversity can be character-building and is something we must all face from time to time, but we are convinced that future years shall prove reassuringly less eventful and disruptive for you. If you can all try to glean the positives from this experience, you shall be the better and stronger for it. As Dr Seuss once wrote, "Sometimes you will never know the value of a moment until it becomes a memory." This might be a metaphor too for your time at St. George's Primary School. It has certainly been a privilege for us personally to have been the final teachers on your journey here.

Best wishes

Mr. Barter and Mrs Restorick