



ST GEORGE'S CHURCH OF ENGLAND FOUNDATION SCHOOL

"Every moment, every day, every individual counts"

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Dear Parents

REF: END OF TERM 4

I find it hard to believe that already we are nearing the Easter break and will soon be completely taken over in most households by the joys of chocolate. We are also in that time of year whereby we are trying on all counts to build the confidence of those approaching the summer tests and examinations across both schools as the relentless nature of education continues unabated. It is our purpose to help, support and lift those up that are burdened by the task of national tests whether they be pupils, parents or even staff.

We have been blessed this term with some major successes and events that have definitely left many of us proud to be connected to our wonderful school. We have seen the success of the Primary children at the local cross country event, the hoola hoop championship and the achievement of raising money for the local homeless charity "Porchlight." At Secondary our pupils have been to France, competed at the National Biathlon Championships and the Sixth Form Academy Football Team have reached the County Final for the first time in our history. We have also been chosen to host the local Diocese Synod at the school which is a real privilege.

I am writing to you all early this term as we have some notable retirements of two people that many in our school community will be familiar with. Easter is truly a time for celebrating change and it is this message that resonates as we say good bye to two highly respected staff and prepare for the future without them. I am personally indebted to both Shirley Balcombe (Director of Operations) and Derek Hall (Director of Finance) for continuing in post in my first couple of years as Headteacher. They have provided both advice and support during what are challenging times both financially and academically. They have both shown experience and loyalty as we have fully opened the Primary School in a seamless manner that has resulted in many of you commenting on the efficiency of the build. We are lucky that Shirley will continue to add value to our school as the Clerk to the Governing Board. Many of us will miss them greatly.

Easter is also a regular time for change in staffing elsewhere and we will be saying goodbye to Mr Morris in Science, who is becoming Head of Science at another Secondary school in Kent, Mr Gillies who will be leaving Ocelot Class to spend more time with his young family, Mrs Clayson, who is leaving for promotion at another local Secondary School and Mrs Taylor who is leaving us for personal reasons. We wish all of them the very best for the future.

We continue to be very popular in regard to recruitment and we already have new staff joining us next term and we will continue to recruit as both schools continue to grow. It is a rarity that a school of our size is fully staffed across both phases and I hope that this will long continue.

It is humbling to note that our school is now the largest it has ever been with all year groups full and buoyant. We continue to be very popular and inclusive of people from all parts of our community. Our vision of "Every moment, every day, every individual counts" is one we strive for as a collective, and our five Christian values are not the preserve of one faith or belief but something that everyone in our community believes in. These are the foundations around which Easter is built and I hope all of us can share in the belief that Easter is a time for us to celebrate change and support each other for the future.

So this Easter my message is about remembering the importance of change, about putting our children first and about working together to make a difference to young people in our care. You may wish to dwell on these thoughts as you tuck into your chocolate. As always thank you for your continued support.

God Bless You

Mr Mirams
Headteacher

"For the body does not consist of one member but of many" 1 Corinthians 12:14

HOPE

FORGIVENESS

COMPASSION

FRIENDSHIP

WISDOM