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15th July 2021

To our Amazing Year 6 leavers.

I normally just write a letter to your parents I send along with your SATs results and your final school report. This year again is different and I personally wanted to say something to each and every one of you. I hope you will spend a bit of time when things are nice and quiet to read this and hope you know I mean every word to you all.

We now come to the end of your time at Heronsgate School. I remember many of you coming to your transition mornings back when you were still in your infants school. You were either excited and bubbly, a little bit nervous, worried you might get lost, looking forward to making new friends and or worried the work would be too hard. Here you are now at the end of your primary school years, so grown up, confident and ready for the next stage in your education. I am sure for many of you these feelings have returned as you get ready for your move to secondary school. Let me reassure you. You are ready! You are bright, eager to learn new things, able to make new friends and resilient and I know you are ready to experience the best that your new schools can offer you.

This year has been the second of two most extraordinary years you could have possibly imagined. To experience the Covid-19 pandemic is something I am sure you will always remember. I know you will carry with you some not so good memories of lock down, missing family and friends, the disruption to school, remote learning, missing the residential and production and the usual activities that happen for Year 6. However, I hope you will also carry with you some happy memories too, of time spent with your families, a slower pace of life, walks in the fresh air, baking and cooking together and finding new and inventing ways of staying in touch with each other. It was wonderful to see you return to school at the beginning of March and some of you have faced further disruption due to the need to isolate. But throughout all of this I have been amazed at how you have all taken the strangeness and uncertainty of the situation so positively. Your smiles and excitement at being back in school with your teachers and friends brought the buzz back to Heronsgate. Thank you so much for coming back to school and trusting us to do our very best to keep you safe.

It has been wonderful to see so many of you working so hard in very different circumstances. You have demonstrated your maturity, independence and resilience in the way you have tackled remote learning and we have all been extremely impressed with how so many of you have continued to make progress. That is all down to you and your determination to do your best. These attributes and this attitude to your learning we know you will take with you and we know you will be a great success!

It has been a fantastic day today, seeing you graduate and I do hope you enjoyed it too. For those of you who were unable to join us we all missed you very much and really wish things could have been

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different. We have loved having you all at Heronsgate and wish you all and those that sadly couldn't be with us, the best of luck and a brilliant time in your new schools.

We are so proud of you all and I have been extremely proud to have been your Headteacher. I hope you could feel how proud we feel as we celebrate Heronsgate School's Class of 2020-21.

Have a lovely summer and please stay well and keep safe.

I will miss you all.

Mrs Jane Edwards

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