



QUINTON HOUSE SCHOOL

Principal: Mrs Jo Storey

Quinton House School
Upton Hall, Upton
Northampton NN5 4UX

Telephone: (01604) 752050

Web: www.quintonhouseschool.co.uk

11th December 2020

Dear Parents, Guardians

This calendar year has been the most challenging, surreal, humbling and uplifting mixture of emotions I have ever known. The responsibility placed upon us all, to maintain, as best we can, our care towards the children has been ever present in our minds and I have seen more acts of selfless dedication in the past ten months, than I have seen in my lifetime to date. Not only has the country rallied, but the spirit within our own school community has surpassed all expectation and I will be eternally grateful to you all for the support and energy I have felt in our quest to keep the ship afloat.

Each Thursday night, during the first Lockdown, for two months solid, the nation showed their appreciation for the Carers (Key Workers) and those on the Front Line, in our fight against the COVID-19 Pandemic. Doctors, Nurses, Scientists, Essential Retail Workers, The Ambulance, Fire and Police Forces, Military Personnel, Refuse Collectors, Teachers, Postal Workers, Delivery Drivers and many more, were all clapped in acknowledgement of the part they were playing in keeping us safe, but also for their role in slowing transmission, while still keeping the country moving as efficiently and effectively as they could. However, I would like to add to that list my Catering Staff, Housekeeping Staff, Admin Team, IT Team, Grounds Maintenance Team, and all of you, the Parent Body for the role you have played in enabling your children to continue their education at home. I am acutely aware of the pressures you were all under, trying to fulfil the obligations of your own jobs, whilst supporting us in executing ours. We have all stood united in the drive to mitigate the damage this could have had upon the students' education and wellbeing and we have, through this, demonstrated the vital importance of protecting our young. We have come together in homing in on the most important task and, in my humble opinion, we succeeded. I could never have done it without you, and the support of the entire army of professionals who make up our school community. I thank you all.

And so, to the future; a vaccine rollout is on the horizon and now we see the tiny flicker of light for which we have been searching. We begin to have hope of the return of some kind of 'normality', which will bring with it our ability to begin to plan again, to gather in groups and celebrate our children's achievements again, and to return to the essential human requirement of human touch and interaction. We have the hope of breathing fresh air once more, unincumbered by the loss of our personal freedoms. The sun will shine once more upon our future and we will be stronger for it. We have proven that we can create unbreakable bonds of mutual support, despite Social Distancing. We have proven we can learn to adapt to different methods of working in a heartbeat, and we have proven that we can stand strong in the face of adversity.

All that remains now is for me to wish you the most wonderful Christmas. I hope you all have the chance to meet with at least some loved ones over the Christmas week and that happy memories can be made. It is clear that 2021 will carry the legacy of this year's events, as loose ends are tied up and, God willing, restrictions ease. However, I do think we can all say 'farewell' to 2020, with a sigh of relief, and give ourselves a big pat on the back for a job well done!

With warmest wishes for continued good health, to you and those you love.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Jo Storey', written in a cursive style.

Mrs Jo Storey
Principal