

Newsletter



Thursday 22nd July 2021

It's hard to believe we're nearly at the end of another academic year...time really does fly! We are at the happy/sad time where we say goodbye to some people and prepare to say hello to others, as well as to celebrate achievements over the past year.

Staff leavers

Tomorrow we will be saying goodbye to **Mrs Potter**, one of our wonderful teaching assistants. It won't just be a goodbye though, it will also be a 'good luck' because Mrs Potter is looking forward to the birth of her second child. We thank Mrs Potter for all her hard work and wish her well in the future. We're all looking forward to meeting her new arrival - how exciting! Best wishes from us all Mrs Potter.



We are very sad to say that one of our longer serving staff members, **Mrs Pennie**, will be leaving her lunchtime supervisor role and hanging up her PPE to enjoy a much deserved retirement. Also in



her previous capacity as part of the DJS cleaning team, Mrs Pennie has worked at the school for a tremendous 19 years. Her dedication to the school, the children and her staff teams has been second to none and we thank her wholeheartedly for all that she has done in both roles. We all wish Mrs Pennie a very long, happy and

relaxing retirement.

Year 6 leavers

The proudest, yet most emotional, part of my role is when we say goodbye to our year 6s. Our current year 6 have been a fabulous year group all the way through their time at DJS and we are very sad to be saying farewell to them. We are in awe of what they have achieved too and they should certainly hold their heads up high and be proud, as they have done SO well despite the challenges they have faced since March 2020. When you see their leavers video (I haven't seen it yet!) and their final assembly, I'm sure you will agree that we should all celebrate the children's time with us and how amazing they have been, whether they joined us in year 3 or at a later point, rather than focusing on the things they have missed out on. Scrolling through the gallery section of our app last night, it was fulfilling to see what great experiences they have had in year 6 and in their previous years at DJS.



I would like to say a HUGE 'well done' to each and every year 6 pupil and, on behalf of every member of staff in school, I hope they all have a fantastic summer holiday and are very happy in year 7.

September

For those of you whose children are returning to DJS in September, information was sent directly to parents yesterday regarding our latest arrangements; the same letter is also on the school app. With things as they are at present, there is always a possibility that these arrangements may need

to be adapted nearer the time but, if that's the case, I will ensure that any changes are communicated via email. Hopefully this won't be necessary but do keep an eye on your emails during the first weekend in September.

Thank you

There are so many people I need to say thank you to.

The staff at DJS are the most fabulous professionals I have had the pleasure of working with because, in addition to being great at their jobs (whatever that may be), they put the care, wellbeing and happiness of the children first which echoes all that I believe in. They have been exceptional during the Covid pandemic and have given me their fullest support which I will always be grateful for.



Thank you also to our **Governors** who have been so supportive since the pandemic started and who agreed to allow the extra classes next year, which will be a big help when it comes to us focusing on 'catch up'.

Parents/carers, you have been so patient and understanding too. I can only begin to imagine how hard it has been for you, yet you have remained positive and supportive of the school which has been so very much appreciated. Thank you SO much.



But my final thanks have got to be for **the children**. The best moment of the year for me was when all the children were able to come back to school together. To hear their laughter and chatter, and see their happy faces was the best day ever!

The children have adapted brilliantly to the many changes we have had to make in school without grumbling (well, not too much!!) and have appreciated everything that the staff have been able to do to make their time in school productive but also enjoyable. Thank you ALL – you are fabulous!

Finally...I hope you all manage some 'down time' over the summer break and can enjoy some well-deserved fun and relaxation with your families and friends. Stay safe, stay well and I will see you (well most of you) next term. N.B. Term starts Tuesday 7th September.

Mrs L J Laird