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28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents,

I am typing this letter from my office as usual except for the fact that it is festooned with bunting, balloons and cards from my 60<sup>th</sup> birthday on the 27<sup>th</sup> May. The Hyde Park Schools were originally opened on 27<sup>th</sup> May so I feel extra blessed to share that date although, I am not as old as the schools! All week I have been delighted to talk with you as parents and the children and have enjoyed the smiles, waves, messages and gifts that have been gratefully received on my retirement. Thank you! I have been humbled by the warmth of your messages and the kind thoughts behind your gifts.

Today, the children will watch my last assembly video. The theme this week has been all about 'aiming high' and 'following dreams'. In the assembly, the children will see some photos of me as I have followed my dreams. I have included two on this newsletter for you to see, one on my first day at school at the age of 4 and the second, when I received my B.Ed Honours Degree from Exeter University. I am very fortunate that my childhood ambition to become a teacher has been fulfilled and to be a Head Teacher for over 20 years to the Hyde Park children and their families has been such a delight and an honour. I will hold everyone of you in my heart and I do hope that when you spot me out and about that you will stop and say hello and give me your news. I will look forward to hearing about the dreams that you are following.

The school will be in safe and kind hands with Mrs Razey taking the position of Acting Head Teacher as well as working as SENCO. All the staff are dedicated to their work in supporting the children so I feel confident that there is a bright future ahead for the school and its community.

There is a lovely half term ahead and thankfully, the sun is due to shine! The summer term will start again on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June when sun hats will be needed. Please cream up your children at home to protect them from the sun (as they won't be able to do that in school) and pop them in long sleeved tops if their arms need additional protection.

As a gift for the children, I will be back in the autumn term to plant a living willow dome for the children across both schools to use for outdoor adventures. I am going to plant some native species to create a Devon hedgerow which will encourage wildlife and give children more opportunities to enjoy nature and the outdoors. I would like to think that my legacy for the children will be to believe in themselves, be kind and to aim high.









