Thursday 31st March 2022

To the community of St Adrian's,

We have finally made it through the dark, winter months with hopefully some glorious days of spring ahead. I have thoroughly enjoyed all the excitement and challenges of leading this great school in my first term as the Headteacher of St Adrian's. It has been a 'busy and buzzy' term, as so much has been happening.

In such a short while, so much has taken place in school already. I wanted to take this opportunity to reflect and to thank you all for your support for the school and for making me feel completely welcomed into this wonderful community.

At the start of the term, I had the opportunity to meet with you all and get to know you at our coffee mornings where I shared my vision and plans for the school, as well as listen to how you feel we could improve our school. We also had a very successful parent consultation morning and evening, where you got to meet one another and have a proper chat with teachers - not remotely!

Following the coffee mornings, I was blown away by your generosity to help with painting, interactive boards and technology, recycling skips, donations of money and offerings of time to volunteer in the school or to help with projects for our school.

There was also a really successful family bingo PTA event, which was really well attended and organised. You have been busy baking cakes and selling them and also running other events that our parents and children can enjoy. All of these events raise huge amounts of money for our school. To all the helpers in the PTA and to all those who contribute time or money to these events - We thank you.

As a school community, we had been apart for a while. However, this term, we have been able to celebrate together with the help of Br Nelson. We had a lovely Mass to start the year and then we received our ashes to mark the season of Lent. We were also able to join together as a community and thank our amazing mums for all their hard work as part of our Mother's Day celebration. The Chaplaincy Team and other pupils led us in prayer and reflection through the Easter story and then we ended our term with a fabulous Easter Celebration, not to mention another great PTA event of 'Break the Rules' day which the children I am sure will love!

We have spent time learning about the patron saints of Wales and Ireland - St David and St Patrick respectively. The school was awash with colour and excitement, we even had some Welsh dragons and Irish snakes! We have also had some fun with NSPCC 'Number day' where the children have learnt about those less fortunate but whilst also having fun with numbers. The children and staff had a great day dressing up and learning about their favourite book characters on World Book Day. We even featured in the Watford Gazette!

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## St Adrian's Catholic Primary School

"To learn, to love, to live as a community of God with Christ as our teacher."

As a Mercy school, we always teach the children about our Catholic duty to think about the Common Good and our global family. We have been part of helping fundraise and gather items for families from the Ukraine. We have also been a part of a Reach out for Refugees of a collective of St Albans Schools which has managed to raise over £20,000. We also did our bit by working alongside St Columbus school and donated generous amounts of items to help the people who have fled the Ukraine. Once again thank you. On top of this, we raised £154.60 for Red Cross / Ukraine and another £115.40 for Comic Relief. We will still be collecting our money boxes for the Catholic Children's society that will be collected after Easter. Thank you for all your continued generosity.

Sports are back again! Thanks to Mr Creaton and Mrs Gibbons who have taken the children to various football and hockey competitions this term. I am also excited to welcome all the other enrichment clubs that have been introduced for the Summer Term and I hope they will be a great success.

With regards to our great library/ reading project, you have been nothing short of BRILLIANT! With all your contributions on our Amazon Wishlist, our class library sections are building up! Thank you to Mr Hayes and Mrs Palmer for taking the lead with English resources and phonics. I know that all your contributions to future PTA events will help immensely with creating and building a wonderfully, magical library that will transport the children of St Adrians to other worlds!

I could carry on for days but I won't. This truly is a great community with a fabulous staff, supportive parents and best of all, absolutely AMAZING children. They have been working extremely hard this term and are making great progress. You should be proud! They are a credit to each and every one of you. I wanted to personally thank the staff of St Adrian's for all their hard work and their continued support since I started. It has been a pleasure working with them.

I wish everyone - the governors, staff and families, the happiest and holiest of Easter holidays and I look forward to another great term after the Easter break.

God bless.

Mrs Porter Head Teacher