



St Adrian's Catholic Primary School



Watling View, St Albans. AL1 2PB

Headteacher: Mrs Aideen Porter

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

Thursday 20th July 2023

Dear Parents and Carers,

So here we are once again, at the end of another academic year. We had a very reflective and emotional farewell to our Year 6 leavers and I have to say, in my many years of doing so, it never gets any easier.

In all honesty, when a teacher decides to choose this job, it is a vocation and they don't make the decision lightly. They give their heart and their soul to growing and educating your children and ensuring they make an impact on each of their lives. So, when yet another class moves on, there is always a little part in the heart of every teacher that goes with them and they will always be thought of fondly.

Therefore, I wanted to begin this letter with a MASSIVE thank you to the incredible staff that we have here in St Adrian's. I am sure that you will agree, that they go above and beyond what is expected or required. Every single member of the team here - the office staff, site team, support staff, kitchen staff, teachers, and leadership, all form an integral part in the running of this school - fully supported by the governing body. The truth of the matter is, I could not do this job without them. We truly are a team and each and everyone one of them is valued and respected. Thank you everybody, I wish you all a very well-earned rest, you 100% completely deserve it.

Now to the parents. I thank you for your unwavering support in helping your child reach their full potential. You are always willing to help and to guide and are supportive in our decisions as a school and as professionals, and for that, we are thankful. As Mr Hayes said in the assembly this morning, thank you for lending us your children, they are a delight!

To the PTA and all that you do - You have been incredible this year and have continued to raise money and provide funds to enable us to build on and develop areas of need in St Adrian's, so for that, we are thankful. A special thank you to Mrs Pickering, who will leave the school as a parent and the treasurer of the PTA. You have given so much of your time over the last few years and it has been greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to Fr. Francis and the parish of St Bartholomew's. Who knew that Fr Francis was so good at football? - He certainly gave our Year 6 a run for their money on the pitch after the Year 6 Leavers' Buffet - He can come back anytime for a rematch!



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Our wishes and prayers also go to Br Nelson. We wish him well for his return journey home. May God bless him and keep him safe in His heart. We will think of him fondly. I know that we will continue next year to build on the great relationship we already have with the parish. Br Nelson will be celebrating a final Mass at St. Bartholomew's this Sunday at 10.30am. It would be lovely to give him a good send off.

Finally, what can I say about the children of St Adrian's? If ever I am having a tough day, rest assured, all I need to do is go to the Early Years. Whilst there, I will be greeted with cheery hellos and requests to go into the roleplay areas to play shop or some other wonderful activity or be told many amazing stories or facts about themselves! As I walk around school, I am asked about how I am and greeted with smiles and children wanting to show me their work and talk about what they have been learning. The children here are AMAZING, they brighten up my day and it is a credit to them and to all the parents here.

Not only are the children here fantastic human beings, but they truly are excelling academically too. This year, I am proud to say that we have achieved higher than local and national results in every key stage in the school. Namely, the EYFS GLD (Early Years -Good Levels of Development), the Phonics Screening Test in Year 1, end of Key Stage 1 SATS and also Key Stage 2 SATS results, in all subject areas.

As a school, we could not be happier. This is a combined effort from the excellent teaching and support staff and the grit, drive and determination of the pupils, as well as the supportive parent body - Well done everyone!

Finally, if anything could ever really show what a fantastic school community this is, it has to be the most recent participation in the drive for a fundraising event initiated and coordinated by the children of St Adrian's, in support of their classmates and friends.

I have been inspired by how compassionate, caring and thoughtful these children are. A group of our Year 3 children took action and decided they wanted to make a change. As a community, our school and friends have managed to raise almost £6000 for 'Race for Life' in support of the Carroll family and others, which is absolutely incredible. This school community and the children truly are what makes this job so worthwhile and I couldn't feel more privileged to be a part of it.

To all of our Year 6 children. It has been a pleasure getting to know all of you and we wish you and your families every success in the years to come. Please come back and visit us and tell us all about your new schools. As we said in the assembly, you are and always will be the children of St Adrian's. We are the family of St Adrian's and like branches on a tree, we all grow in different directions, yet our roots remain as one.



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On behalf of the staff, I wish all the families and everyone in the parish a happy, healthy and blessed summer and also a HUGE thank you for the very generous gifts we have received.

See you again on Tuesday 5th September.

If you would still like to donate to this great fundraiser organised by the Year 3 children, please follow the link on the page below.

Well done children, we are so proud of you!

God bless.

Thank you from Mrs Porter and the staff of St Adrian's.



<https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/tedandfriends-race-for-life-2110070337658>

TO THE CLASS OF 2023 - GOODBYE AND GOOD LUCK!!!!

