



19th July 2024

End of term Letter – July 2024

Dear Parent/Carers,

I can't quite believe that I am writing the final letter of the school year. Another year gone in a flash! I would just like to take this opportunity to thank you all personally for all your support this year with the many events that have been organised. You never disappoint, whether we ask for raffle prizes, donations of any sort or just coming to the school to support your children during school events. Thank you. The children never fail to impress me with their wonderful attitudes to learning, their impeccable manners and how genuinely they care and support each other. They truly are living out the Gospel Values and are a credit to you all.

Once again, we have enjoyed preparing our Y6 for a send-off that they deserve. Many of them attended our residential to Manor Adventures where they took part in so many adventurous activities, demonstrating teamwork, courage and resilience and they have made memories that will last a lifetime.

They have taken part in a wonderful leavers Mass led by Canon Paul and then we were all treated to a fantastic leaver's assembly which made us laugh and cry. Although, I am glad that I don't have to listen to 'We Will Rock You' again any time soon!!

They have embraced, with enthusiasm, the various transition activities that have been provided by our secondary schools.

For some of our families, this will be the end of a long history with the school; particularly if there have been older siblings who have also passed through the school. To those parents, I would just like to thank you for entrusting your children in our care and I hope that everything that we have taught them, will be instilled within them, as they move onto the next chapter of their lives.

As a staff we will enjoy hearing of the children's successes, whether it is through brothers and sisters, reading the newsletter from Bishop Vaughan and Cefn Hengoed or hearing from proud parents of what they go on to achieve after leaving St Illtyd's. Remember Class 6- always reach for those stars.

Many thanks to the wonderful team of staff we have here at St Illtyd's who have worked so hard to ensure the children are provided with the best possible learning opportunities and that good progress is made, by all, throughout the school year. There have been some fantastic highlights, which have included a successful Estyn inspection in December, being recognised for and receiving our School of Sanctuary award. There have been many school visits and visitors that have come



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into school. It has been a wonderful team effort with the intention of every one of us to do the very best for the children.

Finally, I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Alison Staddon all the very best as she retires from our school after working here for over 27 years. She started in the school kitchen, then volunteered as a teaching assistant before accepting a full time teaching assistant post. In my short time here as Head teacher, she certainly has made an impression on me and is loved by colleagues and pupils in the school. We will miss her kind and gentle nature as well as her calming presence around the school. She has taught generations of children who I know will remember her fondly. Mrs Staddon, you will be missed dearly. Good luck and enjoy your retirement. You deserve it!

For the children who remain with us, I hope you have a wonderful summer holiday. Thank you for all your hard work, wonderful manners and commitment to being the very best you can be this year. I am praying for sunshine or at least dry weather over the next six weeks!

Stay safe over the summer, take care and see you all on Wednesday 4th September.

With best wishes,

Mrs Maria Davies

Headteacher