

Final Newsletter from Mr Emery

Dear Parents

As the term draws to a close, I write to share with you a few final thoughts:

It has been a privilege

I have been privileged to lead the school since 2008 and have thoroughly enjoyed working with pupils, staff, parents and governors to help all children achieve their very best. The school is a very positive place to be and we have all worked together to maintain the strong reputation of CJS.

Thank you to Parents

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all parents for your support over the last 11 years. The vast majority of our parents are very supportive and do their best to work alongside the school to help all children feel happy and achieve success. It has been a pleasure working with you.

Fundraising Thank you

As you know, I felt that my leaving was a good opportunity to raise awareness of the mental health of young people. This is such an important area. I know this is a key part of the improvement plan of CJS in the next few years and I wish them every success in developing further strategies to promote the emotional wellbeing of pupils. May I say a big thank you to all those staff, governors and parents who have supported my fundraising for Young Minds Trust. We have raised over £1200 so far, which is testament to the generosity of the Chellaston Community. Thank you!

Thank you to the Children

The children are fantastic. It has been a real privilege to lead the school and work with pupils who love learning and aim high in all they do. Their smiling faces and positive attitudes have inspired me for the last 11 years and I will miss every child more than words can say.

Happy Birthday Enid White!

Last week, the school held a special assembly and welcomed Enid, who is 100 years old this August. Mrs Potterton arranged a card and the Sing Stars Group performed two beautiful songs, including "A Million Dreams". Enid lives near to school and the children can see her from the big gates. It was a very moving assembly and Enid's daughter wrote to the school to say it had been the best birthday present ever for Enid. It is lovely to bring the old and young together.

Congratulations April!

A huge congratulation to April in Ticknall on her recent sporting achievement. We are very pleased to hear that April has been offered a place by Burton Albion Ladies Under 12's Football club to play for the new season. She'll be a credit to the team. Go for it April!

Attendance

Thank you to the vast majority of parents who support the work of the school by ensuring that pupils attend school regularly. I urge parents to avoid taking holiday during term time. This absence really does have a negative impact on the progress of children. The research clearly shows that the more a child

attends school, the better they achieve. Please plan family holidays in the 13 weeks of holidays outside of term time. Thank you.

Y6 Football

The Y6 football team played a match on Monday evening against St Werburgh's. The team competed well on a very warm evening and began to play some stylish football with good passing. The defenders battled throughout and tackled well; Jamal sent a left-footed screamer just over the bar. The team lost 3-0 but should be proud of their overall performance. Well done to everyone involved.

Summer Safety

I wish all children and families a safe break over the summer. Please remind your children about not swimming in open reservoirs or canals. We have also talked about keeping clear of railway lines. Sun safety is always important and we advise everyone to follow these tips to keep safe in the sun:

SLIP on a shirt, **SLOP** on sunscreen, **SLAP** on a hat, **SLURP** some water.

Y6 Leavers

Tuesday evening saw Y6 perform to all the parents. The show included lots of humour and some uplifting songs. The evening finished with the presentation of certificates to all pupils, recognising their individual talents and contribution to the life of the school. Thank you to Y6 for a fantastic show, to all the staff who have worked hard to prepare them and to all the parents for your support. It was a lovely evening to end the year.

A message from Miss Fogg

As luck would have it, Mr Emery passed this on to me to check before it goes out to parents. That gives me the opportunity to talk about him on behalf of all at CJS without him knowing about it!

Today, we paid tribute to Mr Emery in assembly as we waved him off into his new future. A special song, written by Hot House was played, we presented Mr Emery with a cricket bat signed by all of the staff and we presented him with a picture depicting all of Mr Emery's talents, organised by our artist, Mr Kim Harris. We are thrilled that the charity donations to Young Minds Trust continue to rise. This just shows the impact that Mr Emery has had on all of our lives.

Staff tried to capture the essence of Mr Emery "in a word". We put together a presentation of what staff think of him. Words such as: kind, hard-working, supportive, caring, inspirational and one-in-a-million just go to show the kind of headteacher he has been. Staff and pupils have been incredibly lucky to have had such an amazing leader steering the CJS ship for 11 years. We have all learned so much about so many things over this time.

It is so hard to say goodbye to someone who has made such a difference to all of our lives, but we wish Mr Emery every success in the future. Whatever he goes on to do, he will do brilliantly, because he does everything to the very best of his ability...and a little bit more.

So as Mr Emery passes the baton on, I just want to say a huge thank you and good luck from us all. You will be truly missed as a headteacher, but your legacy will live on at CJS in everything we do. 😊

Looking to the future

I take this opportunity to thank all the staff who work so hard to help all children achieve their very best. I know the staff will continue their commitment for all at CJS. I would like to thank Miss Fogg for being an amazing Deputy Head and providing great leadership and support for me over the last decade. I congratulate Mrs Price, who is an inspirational teacher, who I know will work extremely closely with Miss Fogg and ensure the school goes from strength to strength.

Looking to the future, I would like to offer you some advice to help all the pupils on their way:

1. Dream Big: Aim high and remember you can achieve anything you want to in life. And I mean anything.
2. Think positive: Your attitude has a huge impact on yourself and others, so be a radiator not a mood-hoover.
3. Go for it: Nothing can be achieved without some serious hard work, so put in the graft.
4. Be yourself: We are all different which is what makes life so interesting, so be happy to be you.
5. It's good to talk: Talk to friends and family and get involved with the community, don't waste too much time playing on your phone or tablet.

I will treasure my memories of working with the Chellaston Junior School for the rest of my days. I wish you all health, happiness and success in the years ahead.

Mr J Emery
Headteacher