

St Chad's Church of England Primary School, Leeds

5th July 2021



To the pupils and parents at St Chads,

As we draw to the end of this academic year we would like to share with you our sense of thankfulness for the way our whole school community has pulled together. Recently the School Leadership met with representatives from staff, parents and governors to reflect on the school's vision and mission statements. We are all familiar with the mission statement *"In the light of God, we care, we share, we laugh, we learn."* We explored what difference this makes in the challenges and opportunities of each day, and were encouraged by St Chad's clear biblical foundations, to reach out to children and families from all communities in order that they would be equipped to flourish in all walks of life; be that spiritual, educational learning, respect and maturity to name but a few.

To say that this school year has been challenging would be an understatement, I'm sure most of us have had more than our fill of hand sanitizer, masks and bubbles! But under strong leadership the challenges haven't prevented progress in pupil learning as demonstrated by the assessments throughout the year, which are presented in bi-monthly governance meetings. We celebrate with teachers who have shown creativity; with children who have shown a passion to learn; and parents who have shown flexibility. A big thank you and well done to you all!

Patience and perseverance have been qualities much needed this year and we would like to thank you for your understanding as changes to the school day have been introduced to ensure that the school community has been largely kept safe from virus transmission and government requirements have been met. We are also thankful for the dedication and care of the School Leadership and staff at St Chad's who have kept the school open to children of key workers and others.

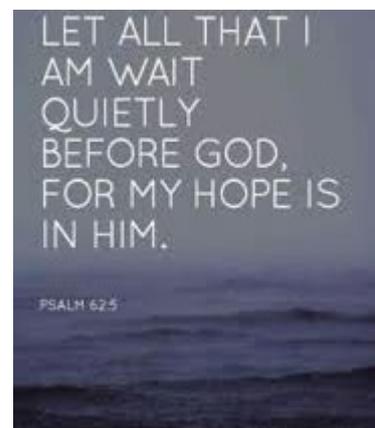
Along with moments to celebrate there have also been times when the strength and kindness of the St Chad's community has shone through, especially when loved members have passed on. In the midst of heartbreak, compassion has surpassed... reminding us again that *we care in the light of God*. Our thanks and best wishes go to Neil McCluskey and the year 6 pupils who are leaving St Chad's this year. Our prayer is that they will truly know what it is to live *"life in all its fullness"* (John 10:10), as they have been encouraged to do during their time at St Chad's. We also wish Angela McHale well during her absence from school.

As we get closer to restrictions being lifted, we are now so much more thankful for the things we *can* do and perhaps took for granted before Coronavirus. With the summer break approaching we hope that all of us are able to reflect, rest and be replenished knowing that God's strength is sufficient in all circumstances, especially when we are worn out! Have a great and safe summer.

"Yes, my soul, find rest in God; my hope comes from him. Truly he is my rock and my salvation; he is my fortress, I will not be shaken."
Psalm 62:5

On behalf of the whole governing body,

Andie Wilson & Richard Gibson
Co-Chairs of Governors



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