



Joyce
Frankland
Academy
Newport

Established 1588 free Grammar Schole of Newport



Dear Parent/carer,

As we close the book on another school year, I would like to firstly thank you for all your support in what has been a highly successful twelve-month period. The last seven days have showcased this success pertinently, with a magical school production where pupils' performances on stage were of professional quality, a superb sports day (although my involvement in the staff relay left a lot to be desired...) and a brilliant art workshop for Year 10, where pupils produced some exceptional still-life work; these were just three examples of academy achievements in the last seven days.

This year's final letter also has the added weight of it being my last one as Principal of Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport. Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the warm and complimentary comments that you have given me either via email or card or in-person since my announcement in the spring term. It has meant a great deal to hear this feedback and I have always been proud of the respectful, honest and productive relationship that I have built with our parent body over the last seven years as Principal.

There will be much that I will miss about leading our wonderful and unique school. It has been a great privilege to work with such dedicated staff, past and present, over the last thirteen years at JFAN. The pupils at JFAN are inspirational. They are articulate, positive and good-humoured; they have been a pleasure to lead. Greeting them at the crossing in the morning or speaking to them about their work in lessons or finding out more in regard to their interests at break and lunchtimes have so often been the highlights of my day.

Next year and in subsequent years I have every confidence that our school will go from strength to strength under the leadership of Mrs Warwick who has already completed some excellent work with staff, reviewing our values at Joyce Frankland and she will be writing to you shortly to share them. We have a fully staffed teaching team in September and an experienced and dedicated leadership team to drive our key priorities. It is vital that the community works together positively and supportively next year to help ensure that our fantastic pupils can achieve the high aspirations that we have for them. As I said in my letter to you in the spring term when I announced that this would be my last year at JFAN, I am incredibly proud of what has been achieved over the last seven years. There have been significant national and contextual challenges (that I won't dwell on) but we have still seen some of the best results the academy has ever achieved, an increased pupil population, brand-new facilities after a successful land sale and consistently good outcomes from Ofsted to name a few. However, I hope, just as much as this, that my values in education have also shone through: that all children need to be able to make mistakes and that every day is a fresh start; that we should never underestimate the value of praise and positivity, especially for our most vulnerable young people; and that motivational, enthusiastic and passionate teaching can inspire young minds.

I hope that you and your family have an excellent and fulfilling summer, and I wish your child/ren all the very best success with their education moving forward.

To sign off, in the words of the brilliant A.A. Milne, "How lucky I am to have something that makes saying goodbye so hard."

Best wishes,

Duncan Roberts
Principal

Explore, Fulfil and Flourish



Principal: Duncan Roberts Joyce Frankland Academy, Newport, Saffron Walden, Essex CB11 3TR Tel:
01799 540237 Email: jfaadmin@joycefrankland.org www.jfan.org.uk