COLLIS PRIMARY SCHOOL

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End of Year Letter from the Head Teacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of another rewarding academic year, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the last twelve months we have had at Collis School. It has been a year filled with achievements, growth, and unforgettable moments for our Collis community.

Before we celebrate the many successes and look forward to a well-deserved summer break, it is important to acknowledge and pay our respects to the sad and awful incidents that have affected us recently. The tragic deaths of young children and injuries at The Study Prep School in Wimbledon have deeply impacted school communities. Additionally, the loss of The Head Teacher Ruth Perry from Caversham Primary School, who sadly took her own life after a school inspection, has been an unspeakable tragedy. We also mourn the losses within our own parental community at Collis. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected, and these events have certainly put our challenges into perspective.

At Collis there have been numerous highlights throughout the year that remind us of the strength and resilience of our school community. The Collis Year 2022-2023 has been filled with achievements and moments of pride. Let me share some of the notable successes with you.

Under the leadership of Mr. Loizos and his team, our Collis students have excelled in sports. The Collis Team earned a Bronze medal in the Annual Panathlon Borough Challenge, and our Netball and Football Teams have achieved significant victories. Our Swimming Squad proudly gained a Silver medal in the Borough Sports Mixed Relay, and the Golf Team became Richmond Borough Champions in the Borough Golf Festival. The Athletics Team claimed the Runners-Up spot in Borough Athletics, while the Hockey Team secured a Gold medal in the Richmond Borough Hockey Championships. Our pupils' dedication and talent in sports have been truly remarkable.

Beyond the sports field, our Collis community has shown outstanding support and enthusiasm throughout the year. We have had successful parent school fund initiatives, and our Collis Garden project is now flourishing thanks to the hard work and commitment of our fantastic volunteers. The Parent Focus Group have provided valuable feedback and advice, and we have organized various curriculum workshops and events to enhance the learning experiences of our students.

We have also welcomed inspiring visitors and hosted engaging assemblies. From world-famous pianist Anthony Peebles to speakers addressing autism and anxiety, we have prioritized providing enriching experiences for our students. Parent consultation evenings have seen excellent attendance, and we have had the privilege of hosting Lindsay Picton, Primary Ed Advisor, and many other esteemed guests.

Throughout the year, we have celebrated diversity and cultural awareness. Black History Month brought meaningful experiences, with Michael Lewis sharing his experiences in the Metropolitan Police during an assembly, and 'Anansi The Spider' captivating the children with tales from the Caribbean and Africa. These events have broadened our students' horizons and fostered a sense of inclusivity.

Collis has continued to nurture a love for the arts and music. Richmond Music Trust lessons have been offered all year round, and our Year 6 students delivered a stunning production of 'The Lion King'. We have explored various educational excursions and had successful school assemblies. Furthermore, the Year 6 Collis School Journey has provided invaluable experiences and memories for our students.

I would like to express our heartfelt appreciation to all the members of the Collis Parents Association (CSA) for their unwavering support and dedication. A special thank you goes to Jenny and Nicola, the joint chairs, Carole the treasurer, and the entire committee. The efforts of the CSA have raised vital funds that enable us to offer exceptional opportunities to our students. From cake sales, the wonderful Fireworks from Liv and the team, fairs/picnics to the enjoyable Junior and Infant Discos, their commitment has truly made a difference.

We must also extend our gratitude to Jim Smith, Matt Thomas and Rob Addis for their exceptional art, photography and technical contributions to Collis. Their expertise, design, and creativity have gone above and beyond, and we are incredibly thankful for their generosity.

Looking ahead to September, I am delighted to announce that free school meals will be provided for every child, thanks to the initiative introduced by the Mayor of London. Furthermore, the long-standing dispute on pay and funding between schools and the government has hopefully come to an end. This resolution will ensure proper investment in school funding and future recruitment, benefiting not only our current pupils but also the future generations joining our school.

As we bid farewell and share our thanks to some staff members who will be leaving us at the end of the year, I extend a warm welcome to the new additions to our Collis team. We will be holding class curriculum meetings in early September to ensure a smooth transition for our students. Dates for these meetings are in this week's newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to the entire Collis staff and the governing body for their unwavering commitment and dedication to our students and the vision of our school. From our teaching assistants and support staff to the office and site team, and of course, our talented teaching staff, they have all gone above and beyond to foster the learning and personal development of our children. We have a remarkable team at Collis, and it is an absolute privilege to be the head teacher of this great school.

In closing, thank you, parents, for your support, goodwill, and positivity; it is greatly appreciated by us all. I wish each and every one of you a fantastic summer holiday filled with relaxation, joy, and quality time with your loved ones. May we all return refreshed and ready for another year at Collis.

Best wishes,

Kevin Hogston
Head Teacher

SCHOOL GAMES GOLD 2021/22
Helen Arkell 2016 Believe Achieve Succeed The Dyslexia-SpLD Trust
National Support School designated by National College for Teaching & Leadership
PRIMARY SCIENCE QUALITY MARK SILVER AWARD
STARS A TIL COMMUNITY PROJECT Gold level accreditation 2019
Ofsted Outstanding School 2014|2015