



On Saturday morning, the world lost an incredibly charismatic, brave and fun-loving little boy. Jonathan – you were only ten years old, but throughout your all-too-short life, you touched ours in ways that you may never know. Actually, you are all-knowing, so I think that you probably will.

Jonathan – you have the most amazing presence; and regardless of your physical size, you have the stature of a giant. You command the space around you, and next to you, we are small in comparison.

You know how to draw attention to yourself, ever so subtly, but so effectively, and you never give up. Ever. You smile, giggle, and laugh and you keep smiling, giggling and laughing until you secure that connection with others. It is those connections that we will all cherish. You have the rare talent of always, and unconditionally, making other people feel good.

You love noise, chaos and mischief, and enjoy nothing more than it all going wrong in the dinner hall. You are in your element when plates are zooming over your head and when others duck, you just laugh. And when you laugh, the world laughs with you.

You are the very definition of a people-person and for those privileged to be in your gang, our lives are richer for it. Your sense of humour is infectious, the old “take an empty wheelchair to the bathroom” routine was a particular favourite and I will cherish our matching clothes game. I may have sometimes only given you a seven out of ten, but you are, without question, an eleven out of ten boy, every day, and in every way.

And perhaps one of the greatest accolades is this. When we share class lists late in the Summer Term, I can remember, time after time, all adults beaming when they see your name in their class. This year, you may not be on a class list, but you will always, always be in our hearts.

We are now going to spend a few moments remembering the joy and happiness you have brought to the whole Riverside community. Our lives are so much richer for having spent time with you and we will always remember you, charismatic, brave and fun-loving. Our Jonathan.