



An End of Year Message from Viv Hinchcliffe, Head Teacher of Riverside School.

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Pupils, Governors and Friends of Riverside School,

It's always nice for me to write a short piece at the end of the year. I cannot possibly include everything, as the achievements and progress at Riverside School this year have been immense. As you know, in January 2010, Riverside School opened a Centre for Children with Autism in Beckenham and to be honest, this seems to have been part of our school for years - I even had to check in my diary to confirm it really did open last January. This provision really is a centre of excellence and is recognised as such by our school community, our partner agencies and the Local Authority. The 25 primary aged children are flourishing and the progress they have made in such a short time is fantastic. I want to thank our wonderful parents and carers for being so supportive and working with us to provide the very best for our children and young people. Scott Jarred has provided excellent and robust leadership as Head of Centre and the staff on both sites are without doubt, among the best in the country. Well done to staff, parents, Governors, Members and Officers of the Council for setting up much needed provision for children with ASD in the Borough.

At St. Paul's Cray, progress and development is just as impressive. Many improvements have been made to the school environment with the creation of a soft playroom and a newly configured playground. Work on the new hydrotherapy pool begins in August and I would like to thank Sue Crane, our School Business Manager, and the Governors for bringing these and other initiatives to fruition. Plans have been drawn up for a new Performing Arts Centre in the quadrangle area in the centre of the school and a major fund-raising project has started. If you know an organisation that might help sponsor our Performing Arts Centre, please let us know. Details of all these initiatives can be found on our school website (www.riversideschool.org.uk).

11 students finish their career with us this week: Jack Boley, Jamie Cavanagh, Alex Grainger, Matthew Lock, Reece Lyons, Narendra Rajendran, Nicholas Sanderson, Emily Smith, Martin Tooley, Jamie Gower and Ghaneeyat Adegboyega. It is always difficult to

say farewell. We wish all our school leavers and their families the very best for the future. Please keep in touch.

4 staff leave at the end of this term, two teachers, Deborah Richards and David Fisher and two teaching assistants, Averil Baulch and Helena Skipper. We wish them every success in their new positions and thank them for their work at Riverside. Our Chair of Governors, Deirdre Brockhouse, and Governor, Janet Ettridge, both step down this term. They have given the school excellent support since the early days of Riverside and I would to thank them for the steer they have given to the school.

I want to end by thanking all of you, - pupils, parents, staff, friends and governors - , for your hard work and support. The school has a very wise and able Senior Leadership Team and in particular, I want to thank Steve Solomons, Deputy Head Teacher, and Carl Edwards, Assistant Head Teacher, for their excellent leadership and management. Everyone goes that extra mile at Riverside and that makes the school very special.

I look forward to working with all you next year.

Just to remind you, the pupils' first day of term is Thursday 2 September 2010. Have a great summer holiday.



Dr Viv Hinchcliffe, Head Teacher
22 July 2010