

Parents, Carers and Leavers

Date 30 June 2022

Your ref

Our ref ECS/S&LL/LF/AH

Dear Parents, Carers and Leavers,

Back in Spring when I last wrote to you we were predicting that despite the seemingly endless infections and absences, the session would end with almost every aspect of school life restored to us.

Here we are at the end of the year having had proms, concerts, transition days and of course, exams. It's not been easy powering through until now, but I'm sure you'll agree it's been worth it.

There are difficult times ahead but we are far more than a collection of schools and early years centres. The sense of community, charity and compassion for those less fortunate is growing stronger daily and perhaps the pandemic has helped with that.

Strides have been made to poverty proof the curriculum and more progress will be made next year. We've improved and built some of the most spectacular learning spaces and made even greater use of the outdoors and digital. The progress in attainment across our primary schools is commendable and we've improved the numbers of leavers with a positive sustained destination. It genuinely feels like the end of a long hard winter.

None of this has been possible without strong respectful partnerships with you. Every area of school life is improved when we work together, no matter how large or small the act. You have shown patience and resilience and we are profoundly grateful for your support these past months.

If this is your last session with us as a parent, carer, or young person, think of your Edinburgh family fondly and remember that learning is for life. Your path might wind all the way back to us as an adult learner or as a former pupil/motivational speaker invited to dazzle a new generation with your success - who knows, it's all possible.

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Although I'm already looking forward to next session (it's true!) it's definitely time to kick back and relax.

Here's to the sunshine!

Yours sincerely

Lorna French

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