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Weekly Newsletter – 16th July 2021

It is hard to believe this is my final ever KWPS newsletter and there have been many tears whilst writing it. My last week has certainly been memorable in so many wayssadly not all good.....

Y5 Bubble closure

We were devastated that due to a positive case we had to close our Y5 bubble on Tuesday. I know that Miss Fiddler, Mrs Thompson and Mrs Beatham were disappointed that they couldn't finish the year with their wonderful class. However, it was lovely to catch up with so many of Y5 on zoom yesterday and to open their present, a lovely book containing beautiful watercolour paintings of Stanley Park. They managed to combine two of my favourite things – Stanley Park and KWPS – just perfect! I told them how lucky Mr Glynn is to have such a super Year 6 for his first year. I am also impressed with how hard they have been working on ClassDojo again – right from the off on Tuesday morning.

Y6 Bubble Closure

On Wednesday, we were just as upset to find out that we had to close our Year 6 bubble. We had held the dress rehearsal for the Leavers' Presentation on Tuesday and their whole class dance to 'The Greatest Show' had me in tears as every pupil showed such passion and commitment when they performed it. They all cheered when I cried as apparently that had been their main aim! Therefore, we were all bitterly disappointed that they didn't have the chance to perform it 'live virtually' for their parents on the Wednesday afternoon as originally planned. Fortunately, Mrs Lewthwaite had recorded them last week during rehearsals so at least we were able to come together on zoom and watch the practise runs of the song, dance and of course, the sketches based on their experiences over the year. They were also able to share their PowerPoint of lovely messages to their parents.

It wasn't how they or we would have chosen to end their time at KWPS but I know Y6 have had a lovely term with lots of experiences including Hothersall Lodge, Mini-enterprise and rehearsals for their Leavers' Presentation all of which will hopefully provide lots of lasting memories. They finished the term with an on line zoom party – I hope they had fun!

Thank you and Good Luck Year 6

As I said at the virtual Leavers Presentation, Year 6 have been a truly lovely class, super role models to all the other pupils and should be very proud of themselves and all they have achieved. The Staff, Governors and I would like to thank them for all they have contributed to KWPS during the last 7 years. Their hard work both in school and during lockdown has ensured that they are more than ready to move onto the next stage of their education. We wish them all every success and hope that, COVID guidelines permitting, they will pop back to visit next year.

We'd also like to say a special goodbye to all our Y6 families who are leaving KWPS, some of whom have been associated with our school for over 15years. Thank you for all your support throughout this time. Your children are a credit to you.

Mmmm....Ice-cream!

On Thursday afternoon as a thank you from me to all our lovely children, and to create a lasting memory for them, (and me) I had arranged for an ice cream van to visit our school. We were lucky that the perfect weather meant that we could sit on the field and enjoy our ice creams and lollies in our bubbles. I am just so disappointed that Year 5 and 6 weren't there too.

Thank you and Goodbye

I have been truly overwhelmed by the cards, gifts and flowers I have received and the donations to www.samssuperheroes.co.uk. The many kind words and comments have meant the world to me. Apologies if I haven't had chance to thank you personally.

The children and staff have made this a very special last morning for me - with beautiful assemblies – all in their separate bubbles. I was so proud of each and every one of the children for sitting so smartly and for speaking and singing so beautifully. They also reminded me just how many of their parents I had taught! Even though Y6 and Y5 couldn't be in school – I had the opportunity to watch the Y6 leavers dance virtually and Y5 had sent in videos of their poem, which Miss Fiddler had put together, it was so lovely to see each and every one of them.

KWPS is a very special place and has been such a huge part of my life for almost a quarter of a century. Throughout this time, I have been fortunate to work alongside such talented, committed and caring staff, a supportive Governing Body, wonderful families and above all delightful children who I will miss so very much. You should be very so very proud of them. I know that Mr Glynn is looking forward to joining the KWPS family and he will be a wonderful asset to the school. We are meeting up many times during the next 6 weeks to ensure a smooth transition.

I have made so many lasting friendships both in school and in the wider community. I also have very special memories of three very special and much loved colleagues, Karen Field, Hellie Meaney and Rita Mapple who are very much missed by us all.

Once again thank you so much for your unwavering support, especially over this last 18 months. It has been an incredibly difficult time for us all, but the support we have had from our families has been invaluable.

I could not have asked for a better school, staff, children, Governors and families to end my 33-year teaching career in. I have loved every minute of teaching here and the school family has felt like an extension of my own family. I have lived and breathed KWPS for so many years – it will always have a very special place in my heart.

I wish all my KWPS families every happiness for the future – I will miss you.

'Au revoir'

Rhiannon Jones

