



20<sup>th</sup> October 2021,

Dear Parents/Carers, Staff, Governors and Pupils,

**RE: Farewell Message from Mr Murrell**

As I will be retiring from teaching and leaving Cavendish at the end of October, I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has been a part of the school community during my time at the school.

From the moment I first visited Cavendish, I knew it was a special place and it has been an absolute honour and privilege to have been trusted to be accountable for the leadership of the school over the past five years.

Most importantly, I want to thank all the fabulous children of Cavendish. Watching you all grow and develop has been a constant joy and has always been the main reason why I have felt so motivated and enthusiastic about coming into school and have enjoyed my time as Executive Headteacher so much. I wish you all every success for the future.

Next, I would like to pay tribute to the staff. I have been incredibly lucky to have worked alongside so many committed and skilled colleagues who have not only been responsible for delivering excellent teaching and learning opportunities for the children, but also for ensuring that all our pupils are well looked after and kept safe, the premises remains in good order, our before and aftercare provision, lunchtimes and after school activities run smoothly, our communications are helpful and timely, parents and visitors receive a warm welcome, our finances are well-managed and any issues are dealt with promptly. We are very proud of the fact that several of our teachers have moved on to more senior positions.

I have been exceptionally fortunate to have worked with such a strong and experienced group of senior and middle leaders. Their outstanding contribution has played a major role in raising and sustaining the high standards which have put Cavendish among the top 3% of schools nationally. For me, it is particularly important to recognise the exceptional efforts of our current Head of School and Assistant Head of School whose ongoing professionalism and loyalty to Cavendish has been exemplary.

The contribution from our parents and carers has been invaluable. We are so grateful that you have entrusted Cavendish to take care of and educate your children. No school can be effective without the significant input of parents and carers, and I want to say a deep felt thank you for your continued support and commitment to work in partnership with the school. We are especially indebted to the many parents and carers who have led and supported our PTA and those who have been able to be part of our class reps group.

I would also like to thank our Governors. I have been so fortunate to have worked with many very committed, knowledgeable and wise Governors who have always tried to ensure that the school continues to grow and develop and remains focused on improving the quality of education. I am especially grateful to all those Governors who have worked so hard to help the school through challenging times and supported our leadership team to make the necessary changes following my arrival in 2016.

I look forward to hearing about the further success of Cavendish and am optimistic that the school will continue to fulfil its mission of helping to produce highly capable, skilled and educated citizens who are able to make a positive contribution to modern multicultural Britain and who understand the importance and value of taking personal responsibility, showing kindness to others, being resilient, maintaining their integrity and being curious in ways that helps them to develop knowledge and understanding based on reason and evidence.

Although I am hoping to keep my hand in education in some capacity or other, I am now looking forward to spending more time with my family and especially my wonderful wife without whose love, care, support, patience and understanding, my career in teaching would not have been possible.

Thank you all again for an amazing five years.

With very best wishes,

Gary Murrell

