

HELLO

Dear Y4SH,

Who would have thought that we would be ending the year like this?

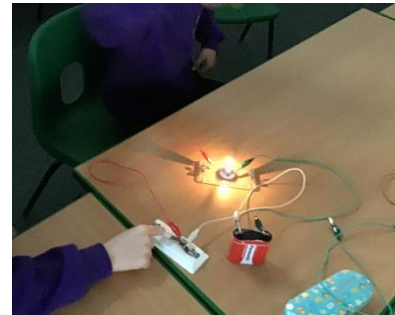


First, I want to say how much I love and admire each and every one of you. I may have only known you since I started at Spalding Parish in September, reading, thinking and laughing together. You have put up with my silly voices when reading aloud; participated when I made you go outside to learn about the 'straight path' in Hinduism; you've dressed up as Vikings and re-created a Viking village and learnt new trades.

I have loved watching you grow and develop friendships and become the marvellous young people that you are during the short time we had together. You welcomed me to the school in September and made me smile every day. You reminded me then (and still do today) why I love being a teacher.

No-one could have imagined that we would not have been together for half of the year but, during this time, yet again, you have shown unlimited kindness, resourcefulness and resilience and I am so proud of you all.

You, too, should be proud of yourselves. You have learned in ways you never thought possible, you have shown kindness to your friends, class mates, family and friends.



I know that you will probably also be feeling frustrated as you have not been able to learn in the classroom, or been able to do all the end of year celebrations such as sports day but, during this pandemic, you have used technology to learn and share ideas; you have worked on projects; you've done some amazing drawings; you've been baking, undertaking engineering projects in the garden and by doing so, you will have learned so much more than you could ever have learnt in a classroom. So, don't think of it as having missed learning as we cannot miss something that isn't there. We are all in the same situation and your teacher will be there to support you when you do get back to school.

It is ok to let your feelings show from time to time too.



You have risen to the occasion and shown that your bravery outshines all doubts you may have had about yourselves. You are uniquely set up to handle every curveball that a global pandemic can throw at you with creativity and resilience and grace. I truly believe in your ability to come through this and wow, what a story you will have to tell.



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I wonder what that creativity will look like. Maybe you will write a brilliant story about how the world was shut down by a virus; maybe you'll work together to create a unique set of memories and create a memory box; maybe you will devise a way to celebrate (safely) in a way that none of us could have imagined. Whatever you do, I hope and pray that you will celebrate your unique achievements and be proud of how you showed respect for each other.

Finally, I want to say a huge Thank you. Thank you for being awesome, fun and inspiring. You not only made me a better teacher but I believe you have made me a better person. I'll always be grateful that I got to spend my first year at SPCEDS with you, getting to know you.

I am excited to see you grow further as you move into Year 5.

Keep smiling 😊

Mrs Hirst.

