



Newsletter

12th June 2020

Dear parents/carers,

This week we opened our doors to some of our year 6 children, it was so lovely to welcome them back! Although somewhat strange, the two bubbles settled very well in the new routines; they are managing to do lots of learning, lots of work on identifying and managing feelings and emotions and of course, preparing for transition into secondary school. We are hoping to open for our children in Year 1 and Reception from the week beginning the 22nd of June, more details to follow next week!

As you all know, Kate has been travelling around the world on her sabbatical year, throughout she has kept in touch with us by sending us fascinating videos of her adventures and lovely postcards from the most beautiful places. As the pandemic spread around the world, she decided it was too dangerous to stay away from home and managed to get on the last flight back from Brazil just before the flights closed at the beginning of lockdown. Below there is a message from her.

Dear children and families

I know that many of you followed my adventures online and via school. It was wonderful to be able to share my experiences with you and I hope that it inspired as well as entertained! I had an incredible time and I learnt so much. Spending time away and experiencing new things gave me a lot of food for thought. While I have loved being the head teacher of VPS, I came to the decision that it is time for me to move on to new challenges in my professional life. So I will not be returning in September.

I have been the head teacher of VPS for ten years and during that time I have had the privilege to work with and get to know an amazing community of learners. You have all taught me so much and there have been many times when I have felt truly fortunate to be working in such a special place. I am really proud of the fact that the school is in such a strong position with a caring and brilliant staff team, alongside an excellent board of governors. Together I know you will achieve great things!

I would like to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt thanks to all in the VPS family who have supported me in this marvellous transformational journey we have been on. I will never forget your enthusiasm and passion not only for learning but for championing equality and social justice. I will take with me many many fond memories of all the wonderful learning adventures we have been on together.

I look forward to seeing you all to say a proper goodbye once we are able to. In the meantime, I am sending you lots of love during this difficult time.

With love and best wishes,

Kate

We are all so sad to see Kate go, she truly has been the most inspirational leader and has enabled every single child and adult strive to be the very best they can be! Kate's legacy at Virginia is monumental; we



Newsletter

will all continue to build on it, to grow and to always nurture the sense of community, empowerment and equality in everything we do.

Once we are able to, we will celebrate with Kate the last ten years and we will be able to say a proper thank you and a farewell. In the meantime, we wish her all the best in the next adventure, whatever this may be, we know that there will definitely be laughter and dancing!

Stay safe healthy and kind

Best wishes,

Barbara Lo Giudice, acting head teacher