

The De Montfort School

UNLOCKING YOUR CHILD'S POTENTIAL



Four Pools Road, Evesham, Worcestershire, WR11 1DQ | Telephone: 01386 442060

11 December 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

In my final letter to you, I would like to, once again, extend my sincere gratitude for the tremendous loyalty and support shown to me, throughout my 6 years at The De Montfort School.

I believe we should all be immensely proud of the reputation the school now enjoys, where you, as parents, have recognised our endeavours to be a truly inclusive school with first class relationships at our core. We have created a school, where parents want to send their children, where the children want to be and where staff want to work.

We have increased our admissions and established a trajectory of improved outcomes at both KS4 & KS5; KS5 achieving positive Value Added in 2020 and KS4 achieving very good Progress 8 scores of +0.34 (2019) and +0.7 (2020), placing our school in the top 10% of schools nationally.

The building of positive relationships has underpinned our ability to continuously improve the educational provision that we offer. With an "open door", listening and inclusive culture, our children, irrespective of ability, learning needs and cultural background, receive excellent pastoral care. We also have an aspirational culture leading to very good behaviour, enabling our staff to focus on what they do best, teach.

TDMS joins the Four Stones Multi-Academy Trust (MAT) in January 2021, and I am certain this will provide exciting new opportunities for the sharing of best practice and will support TDMS in its next stage of improvement, helping it to continue to flourish as a school at the heart of its community.

I believe that Mr Weston as the new Associate Headteacher, together with the incredible commitment of the staff, will enable the school to continue to improve and ultimately become the outstanding school our children deserve.

As part of the conversion process, there will be a new governing body appointed by the MAT. I would like to sincerely thank our magnificent governors who have been incredible servants of the school and have been invaluable in helping us become the school that we are today. I would especially like to thank our Chair of Governors, Mrs Christine Grove, who, throughout my six years as Head has met with me on a weekly basis. Armed with her rich understanding of the school, has very ably led our governing body, meaning the school has had the 100% support and challenge we have needed to continuously improve.

Throughout my tenure as Headteacher, staff, governors, parents and the children themselves have, as a team, learned from our mistakes, taken bold decisions and embraced opportunities to improve. Despite some disappointments along the way, including Ofsted, we have remained resolute and positive, re-establishing the school's credibility and the self-esteem of all stakeholders. Our resolve has, of course, been further tested during the pandemic, but we have supported each other and, mercifully, we have had extremely few positive cases. As a school, we always stay true to our values and we have a genuine and enviable sense of pride.

Headteacher: Guy Nichols BSocSC (Econ), NPQH

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Over the last six years, it has also been an enormous privilege to have worked with such committed and compassionate children and alongside a team of staff, governors and parents that have, from the very beginning, accepted the need to dig in and never give up. Discovering a school where the staff, governors, parents and children share a common determination to improve and the resilience to keep going, even when things get tough, has been inspirational. As a result, we have improved the school's standing in the local community, endorsed by colleague Headteachers, external professionals and recognised and valued by Nigel Huddleston MP.

If pressed to give one particular highlight, it would be our symbolic and moving Remembrance Service each year with a theme and created physically by our staff and the children, together with presence from our wonderful parents.

I will always be extremely grateful for the support I have been given and TDMS will always hold a special place in my heart.

I wish everyone at the school the very best for the future.

Yours,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Guy Nichols', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Guy Nichols