



24<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Dear parents,

As-Salaam-Alaykum,

Today, we have written the final chapter of the 2019/20 academic year and this part of our story closes a very happy one. What a successful year we have had!

From seeing children arrive in September with their brand new school uniforms on, to our assemblies and performances, to our devoted time to QIS and prayer, to our exciting new curriculum, to our successes in sport, to our enrichment, it is clear that the Zaytouna Family have been up to something special. I'm delighted that this was acknowledged during our external review in March and I know that we're exactly where we need to be to realise our shared dream for our school.

When the global pandemic hit, we rolled our sleeves up and did what we do best – we remained connected and put our children at the heart of all of our decisions. I will forever be grateful to the Zayteam for their creativity and commitment and I'm proud to lead such a great team.

As we close this chapter, we inevitably say goodbye to some people. It was a privilege to say a proper Zaytouna goodbye to our Y6s this morning. They embark on the next stage of their school career as confident, happy and kind children who are ready to succeed in secondary school. A very big thank you to Mrs Symes, Mr Brailsford, Mr Murphy and our site manager Mr Allen who leave us to develop their professional journey elsewhere. We wish them lots of love and luck.

We might be saying goodbye but we're also saying hello. I was thrilled to meet so many of our new EYFS children at our open day on Tuesday. They were all so excited to experience 'big school' and I know that they'll bring such energy and joy to our school family. We'll also be welcoming many new starters in all of our other year groups too – our reputation is growing exponentially and we'll soon be needing a waiting list! I'm thoroughly delighted that we also have some new members joining our Zayteam – Miss Hussain joins us as teacher in Y5 Istanbul, Miss Allen joins us as our new EYFS Lead and Mrs Russell will be teaching in Y3 York and leading Inclusion.

As we close the gate for the final time of this academic year, we do so smiling, proud and excited about all that is yet to come... And I for one, cannot wait!

Have a restful, safe and fun holiday and I'll see you bright and early on Monday 7th September for the first day of school. Take care and best wishes,

Ms A Turner, Headteacher