

Dear Friends,

In a few weeks time the schools will break up for the summer holidays and Bishop Hooper school, along with other primary schools in the area will be getting ready to say goodbye to their year 6 leavers. This year there are 16 children that we will be saying 'goodbye' to and wishing them well as they begin a new chapter of their lives. This year, most of the children I got to know originally when they were in year 1 and I have seen them grow over the years and it has been a pleasure to watch them become confident young people, who I know will be a real asset to the Secondary schools they will be moving on to. During the leavers service we usually hear from their class mates about some of the special moments they have spent together. One of the things that I have been reflecting on is the contribution that each individual child makes to the life of the school, they all leave a little piece of them behind and the school is richer for them having been part of it. When school returns after the summer holidays things will have changed, we will have a new year 6 and a new intake in each school year and with a new group of children starting school for the first time. If you are someone who prays, please do pray for all of the children, not just in our local school but all those who will be moving on to secondary school in September and those who will be starting school for the first time.

School days may be long behind most of us but changes and milestones are things we all face, houses may change hands, people will come and go, but each of us leaves a footprint behind us, memories live on and we all contribute something of ourselves to the communities we find ourselves in. A reading in the book of Ecclesiastes in the Bible, that I use quite often talks about how there is a time and purpose for everything and that is something that I find quite helpful to think about. Seasons come and go, we come and go, we move onto new seasons in our life, just as the year 6 children will do but each season helps to shape us and we add something to it. The final verse of that passage says 'God has made everything beautiful in it's time'. I pray that each of us may know the truth of that verse, whether we are changing schools, starting a new phase in our lives or continuing as we have been doing. A time for everything!

With my love and prayers

Lynn