



A final message from

Sonja Harrison

Friday 20th July 2018

Dear Children, Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors, Colleagues and Friends,

In view of my imminent departure, all I can really say is that I have had a glorious time at Queen's Manor. It has been a privilege to teach, work with, support and learn from an amazing school community and with the help of many passionate and committed people both within the school and beyond, the school has continued to go from strength to strength.

The major highlight of my time at QM has got to be the people and the teamwork; laughing, sharing, supporting, encouraging and understanding. There are too many great people to mention individually (though I will go onto mention a couple ;)) - you know who you are, you know what a great support you have been and you know that I will be forever grateful.

Friends of QM and its various lead people deserve a big 'high five' for all their efforts over the years; they have made a significant difference to the offer at QM, helping to secure a great atmosphere and opportunities for children and parents. Thank you for my lovely tea party yesterday, the cakes with my image on were hilarious!

Special thanks to QM Governors who have been critical friends and a huge support in the strategic leadership and development of the school. They are a team of huge-hearted people who rarely get a mention for all their hard work and time but are pivotal in the smooth management and leadership of the school.

More recently the Trustees of Brightwells Academy have provided guidance and professional knowledge to get Brightwells up and running and into the strong position we are in currently. I have learnt a great deal in the past two years - greatly appreciated.

Without a doubt I need to appreciate my colleagues in and around Hammersmith and Fulham Local Authority including the Headteacher network; always just a phone call away, always willing to help and always great providers of empathy and advice.

I would like to say a **massive** thank you to all the staff I have had the pleasure of working alongside over the past 18 years; the admin teams, teaching teams, support teams and catering & cleaning teams - they have all done their bit to make QM the place it is today. QM only works because of all the amazing people front of house and behind the scenes who keep the cogs whirring. I will miss you all.

And so to the children of QM - you will all hold a very special place in my heart and I will continue to smile and glow with pride as I hear about you reaching milestones and achieving your dreams.

Always remember, if you follow QM's Golden Rule 'Treat others as you wish to be treated' you won't go far wrong in life. In our recent production of Grease, there was a suggestion that you have to change to fit in; I completely disagree! Stay true to yourselves; be your own person; have your own ideas and opinions and most of all, always be kind.

As the sun sets on my reign, I am delighted to be handing over the QM crown to my partner in crime Phoebe du Parcq. I would like both introduce and endorse Miss du Parcq as Acting Headteacher. Miss du Parcq has always put the needs of the children first and upholds Queen's Manor's values to the core. Her sharp mind and even sharper sense of humour has carried us through moments when we've needed quick and sensible answers to issues and a little light relief on the side. I hope that you will all continue to back her in the day-to-day and strategic leadership of QM as you have with me.

My aim has always been to lead a school where I would be happy for my own children to attend. On a recent visit, my eldest daughter Charlotte commented (in her own words and without any prompts)

*"I wish I went to your school Mummy, Queen's Manor feels like a family;
it's a really happy place."*

...and so ladies and gentlemen, my job is done! Onwards and upwards, Queen's Manor - I shall be keeping a very close eye on your news and developments over forthcoming years. I know that with everyone's continuing support, the school will continue to make memories for generations to come.

With very best wishes for all your future successes I bid you,

au revoir

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Довиждане

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adieu

arrivederci

macsalaamo

do widzenia

lamtumirë

ciao

kendé malámu

doviđenja

tchau

Прощай

Goodbye xxx

Lots of love

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sonja Harrison'.

Sonja Harrison

