SIR THOMAS RICH'S SCHOOL

Oakleaze, Gloucester

A Message from the Chair of Trustees

Dear Parents

As we approach the end of another academic year, I wanted to write to thank you for your continued support of and dedication to our wonderful School.

The Rich's community is what makes it so special. At the heart of this community for so many years has been our Headmaster, Mr Matthew Morgan. As you know, he will be leaving us to take up a new post in September, and I wanted to pay a brief tribute to him before he does so.

Mr Morgan has led us all with zeal, vigour and integrity through some of the most challenging times in our School's history. Throughout these, whether a global pandemic or seemingly impossible budgetary constraints, he has maintained an unbridled passion, a quite remarkable capacity for work, and resilience.

In his tenure, Mr Morgan has achieved a huge amount. Record-breaking academic results, a broader and richer extracurricular provision, a supportive and comprehensive safeguarding regime and vastly improved School finances are to name but a few.

I am often approached and asked by Old Richians who all invariably want to know the same thing: what is the School like now, years and sometimes decades after they left. I tell them all - it is totally different and yet exactly the same. Mr Morgan's finest achievement, I believe, is that the evolution never felt like revolution, and that the Rich's spirit - that intangible thing that inspires students past and present to wear their affiliation with such great pride - remains stronger than ever.

While grasping for the words to close this message, I reached for the reference I wrote for Mr Morgan when he applied for his new role:

"I write this reference with a mixture of emotions and thoughts.... Members, Trustees, staff, students, pupils and the wider education sector in Gloucestershire [will] miss him.... I wholeheartedly endorse Matthew as an exceptional Head, a compassionate and dedicated educationalist, and a very fine man."

Please do all join me in thanking Mr Morgan for his years of exceptional service, and wishing him the very best for his next chapter.

Mr Morgan will be succeeded in post by his current Deputy, Mr Lynch. I will allow Mr Lynch to have the first word of his new era in September, and I know he will bring unwavering dedication, professionalism and energy to the role of Headteacher.

Please join me in welcoming and supporting him and the School for years to come.

Garde ta Foy

Tom

Tom Grogan Chair of Trustees

SIR THOMAS RICH'S

Oakleaze Gloucester GL2 0LF 01452 338400 info@strs.org.uk www.strschool.co.uk

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