



Thursday, 20<sup>th</sup> July 2023

***'Education is not the filling of a pail but the lighting of a fire.'***  
***-William Butler Yeats***

Dear Parent/Carer,

I have written numerous letters to parents over the years but this has been the most difficult in terms of conveying my heartfelt feelings about our school. After spending the past 27 years directly working in schools, 18 of which have been at St Augustine's, as a teacher and headteacher, I will be moving on to a new, exciting opportunity working across the Diocese of Middlesbrough. Throughout my time at St Augustine's, I have been truly blessed to work with and for so many inspirational people – staff, governors, parents and, most importantly, our wonderful children. I have so many amazing memories from my time at our school and they will remain with me for the rest of my life. I would like to thank every single person with whom I have shared this incredible journey.

Over the years, I have often reflected upon the words above which have been attributed to the Irish writer and poet W.B. Yeats. Working in education is a true vocation and a privilege. As teachers, we hope to inspire our pupils, to challenge and motivate them to fulfil their potential and to open up opportunities in the future. It is always nice when speaking to past pupils to hear about their educational journey and where it has taken them. It is also exciting to consider that, in the future, some of our current pupils will be working in industries and sectors as yet not in existence. There is something very special about the St Augustine's family and I have no doubt that all who work in the school and serve our community will continue to motivate and inspire.

Thank you for your ongoing support for our school and thank you for entrusting us with your most precious of gifts. May the Lord bless you and your family always.

Yours sincerely,

Mr M Macaulay  
Executive Headteacher

*Serve the Lord in gladness*

Executive Headteacher: Mr M Macaulay

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