



Harris Academy

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INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Dear friends

David has been pressing me to produce my newsletter since we returned in mid August and while it would be easy to claim that pressure of work has meant that I have just made the publication deadline my delay has been more deliberate.

Our move to temporary premises over the summer has been an enormous logistical task and one which has tested the resilience of the entire school community. The process was not assisted in any way by press reports which sought to sensationalise. Waiting till the final deadline to communicate with you has given me the opportunity to reflect on five weeks during which we have established ourselves successfully in Lawton Road and during which the education of our pupils has continued with minimal disruption.

I am not naïve enough to imagine that over the next three years that we will not encounter challenges. However, in that we are off to a good start and given the tremendous good will of the school community I am confident we will at least maintain the high standards and quality of learning which we have established over recent years.

The case for a new building in which to develop the Harris experience and tradition has been developed through consultation with the entire school community past and present. The F.P. Association has consistently supported the school in the pursuance of this aim and was highly influential at key points in the discussions with all of the external agencies.

I would be less than honest if I were to say that we left Perth Road with no regrets. In the latter days of June it became very obvious to me just how much personal investment there had been in the building since 1930. We are what we have become on account of 83 years of promoting clear values, adhering to defined standards and striving for challenging goals. While it is sad to observe the bulldozers bite into the bricks and mortar within which we lived, worked and learned I am convinced that our ethos will enable the school to come back stronger and more able to go forward into the future come August 2016.

J Thewliss

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Head Teacher

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