

Dear Parents,

I cherish the beginning of the new school year! It can be challenging, those initial days of readjusting to formal attire and early wake-ups, and pondering over term-related preparations, rather than simply contemplating which book to read and where to take Nala for a walk! However, as the children return, life falls back into its familiar rhythm - and my most cherished sense of normality begins once more.

The excitement that comes with starting a new school year, or for some, a new school entirely, is palpable. It's a chance to reinvent oneself, make new friends, and explore uncharted territory. It's like opening a blank book where the pages are yet to be filled with adventures, friendships, and accomplishments. I know that this week the girls have already started to fill these pages with their own stories.

My personal mission, in these first few days, was to forge connections with the children out in the playground and deepen my familiarity with their names. A particularly insightful question came from a newcomer in Year 3, who asked, "How could anyone possibly remember over three hundred names?" It was at that exact moment that she made sure I'd remember her name. Through every interaction I share with the children, even though there may be moments of trial and error, I am unwaveringly committed to not only learning their names but also discovering their unique personalities and passions.

Another newcomer was hesitant about joining the football practice on the field during break time. She shared that at her previous school, the boys weren't very kind when she played. However, here it was a different story. As we strolled over to the pitch, she donned a bib, and her new teammates eagerly rushed over to greet her with warm hugs! I hope I will see her out there again next week.

I am filled with anticipation for the term and year that lie ahead. At Bute House, there is an unmistakable and enchanting magic that never ceases to ignite enthusiasm and curiosity. This unique atmosphere keeps us all inspired and eager to embrace all the wonderful experiences that await. As we embark on this journey together, I look forward to the moments of growth, discovery, and connection that will undoubtedly make this year truly exceptional.

"And above all, watch with glittering eyes the whole world around you because the greatest secrets are always hidden in the most unlikely places. Those who don't believe in magic will never find it."

The Minpins by Roald Dahl

Have a magical weekend.

Sian