

Dear parents,

I wanted to take the opportunity at the end of the term to write to all of you to celebrate and recognise some of the excellent events and hard work of recent months. I also wanted to make sure all families are fully prepared for the next school year.

### **An opportunity to say thank-you**

I want to start by saying a final thank you and goodbye to Mr Molver. I know many of you and your children have wished him good luck and the King Solomon Academy staff has given him a fond farewell today. Mr Molver has been an inspirational leader and I am truly grateful for everything he has done for our school and for our community. In his role working for Ark Schools Mr Molver will still be connected to our work at KSA and he will remain part of the KSA family.

I also wanted to say thank you to the members of the parent council and the many volunteers and staff who made the KSA Summer Fair a massive success last weekend. It was a wonderful event with a truly community feel. I was proud to see so many teachers and parents working together to run an event which provided so much enjoyment for all of the families who attended. The KSA Summer Fair also raised thousands of pounds which will go towards improving the outdoor spaces around the academy in the year ahead.

This week, I spent two days in Slovakia with our music teachers and pupils from Years 10, 11, 12 and 13 who are part of the Upper School Orchestra. This is the third year running we have been able to run an international tour for our Orchestra and every year it is an even greater success. I want to thank all the families who attended the Summer Concert earlier this month. The money raised from ticket sales from that event contributes directly to the KSA Orchestra Programme including this year's tour, and allows us to provide all our pupils with musical instruments and specialist music lessons.

Great thanks are also due to all of the teachers who have successfully led school trips this term. I am incredibly proud of the number of trips we provide as a school, none of which would be possible without the hard work and organisation of our teachers. The most rewarding – but also the most challenging - trips to lead are the residential trips. I was lucky enough to have fun with Year 6 pupils when I went to visit their residential at PGL and I have heard many great stories about events at our other annual residential trips to Warwick University, Jamie's Farm, camping and for Year 12 to Exmoor. I am very grateful for the trust all parent place in us to look after their children while they are away from home and for the financial payment you make to ensure that your child can participate in every trip we organise.

I would also like to share with you my gratitude to all of the staff at King Solomon Academy who have supported me personally since I became a father earlier this year. My son Rafe and I have very much appreciated the work everyone has done to support me in being able to spend time with him since he was born. In particular I would like to thank Mr Rimmer, Ms Humphreys and Mr Molver for their support in leading the school. I am looking forward to being back full time in September and driving forward King Solomon Academy as we become a fully all-through school.

## An All-Through School

It has been a pleasure in recent months to introduce many parents to the leadership team that will support me in leading the school moving forwards. I would like all parents to get to know every member of the senior leadership team next year. Please do introduce yourselves to anyone you do not already know when you see them at the start of the school year and at school events.

In addition to my Vice-Principals Ms Humphreys (Teaching and Learning) and Mr Rimmer (Behaviour and Inclusion), there will be five senior leaders in charge of the different small schools at King Solomon Academy:



**Mr Benserghin –  
Head of Infant School**



**Ms Smith – Head of  
Junior School**



**Ms Armitage – Head  
of Middle School**



**Mr Mvula – Head of  
Upper School**



**Mr Tindell – Head  
of Sixth Form**

As part of becoming one whole-school community, I have decided to make changes to the school day for the next academic year. Firstly, I want to make it easier for families who have children of different ages to bring their children to school each morning and to do this, I have chosen to change the start of the secondary school day to 8.20am. I also want to make sure children across the academy finish at the same time each day to help families with collecting their children from school. As a result, the primary school will no longer finish at 2.30pm on a Friday, instead finishing at 4pm as on other days.

I have also been considering closing the whole academy one hour earlier on one day of the week to allow all staff to undertake training together. I have chosen for this to happen on a Monday afternoon so primary parents will be able to pick up children from 2.50pm and secondary pupils will be dismissed at 3pm so all staff can be in training at 3.15pm on Monday afternoons. As we did on the last occasion we changed timings of the school day, I am keen to offer free childcare for any family affected by this change. So on a Monday until 4.00pm up until the end of the Autumn Term, you can register for your child to be cared for in school. If you would like to register for this then please do email Ms Colmans ([i.colmans@kingsolomonacadem.org](mailto:i.colmans@kingsolomonacadem.org)) before Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September.

## An Invitation

Finally, as the school moves forward into a new stage, I would like to take this opportunity to invite you all to **an information evening on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 6pm in the main hall at King Solomon Academy** where all parents are invited to come and learn more about our plans for the year ahead and to ask questions about our all-through school. There will be refreshments and a chance for you to speak to me and my leadership team.

I wish you and your family a wonderful summer holiday and I look forward to seeing you soon.



Mr M. Haimendorf, Principal