

CASTLE SCHOOL BIDS FAREWELL TO MRS LETTEN

Tears were shed at Prize Day, but don't worry, we're not letting her go!

Although we allowed Mrs Letten a few final words to round up proceedings and wish all leavers well for the future, she was not allowed to disappear so easily. Mrs Cowell took over the microphone to say a few words of thanks to Mrs Letten for all she has done for the school in the nine years she has worked here.

Here is an excerpt from Mrs Cowell's speech at Prize Day.



But we cannot let Lucy get away with her few words and also I have a bone – in fact several bones to pick with her. I think Lucy must be single handedly responsible for loads of staff leaving CS and I have evidence. If it had not been for her, I'm sure that many of our LSAs would not have been inspired, nurtured and encouraged to believe a career in teaching was for them. So we don't appreciate your recruitment skills – is that even a word? – but we do appreciate all you have done to make sure they were the best they could be whilst they were with us and will continue to be in the future. Many other schools will benefit from your hand in their lives. And it is not only the younger members of staff she has motivated. I know that I have learnt huge amounts from her in the short time I have worked alongside her and I'm sure it's also true for others. But I guess that we won't really remember her for her wise words, her ability to reprimand so effectively and yet unharshly, her skill at diffusing situations or emboldening the meak, or her inspiring and original lessons. No what we will remember her for is her larger than life approach to everything she encounters.

I'm pretty sure that Lucy's mantra is "Why walk when you can dance, talk when you can sing or smile when you can really laugh out loud" Reading through the anecdotes of others what comes across is someone who cares deeply about everyone and will do everything in her power to help them. She will do her utmost do turn her hand to anything if a job needed to be done.

Some snippets – her ability to do an impressive male impersonation – her fancy dress has fooled many a teacher – her skill at adopting a foreign accent, some more convincing than others, her desire to break into song, whether its walking down the corridor, entering a room or mid lesson – her obsession with Spurs – her love of crime fiction and wish to scare the transitioners with the outline of a body on the English room floor. Table tennis competitions. Her nicknames for people both individual and generic. You are all her little lupins and her monkey bears.

But don't worry, we're not letting her go and she will be with us next year, continuing to support the pupils in her own unique and caring way.

The school would like to show their appreciation for all she has done for the school, its staff and parents, and most importantly, its pupils. Can I ask Miss Algieri to bring on a gift from the school to say THANK YOU

And can you all join me in a rousing 3 cheers for Mrs Letten.

Thankfully, she is not leaving us but will continue in her role helping those in need of extra support and we look forward to seeing her back next term.

As you can see, she was both thrilled and shocked by the leaving present given by the school. Some subterfuge had clearly come into play since the painting was one she had coveted for some time every time she walked past her local art gallery.

