



## Prize Giving 2020

### Address by Head Girl, Hesper Holden

This time last year my name was called out by Sir to be the new Head Girl. I felt shocked, excited and overjoyed - I never thought when I started this school at 2 years old that I would one day be Head Girl. I started thinking straight away about the duties I would have and this speech was one of them!



My school life started in Kindergarten – I used to have a cuddle from Mrs Hiscox every day when I was crying for my mum but I soon got used to it! We all quickly made friends and felt like we were very grown up in our tiny school uniforms and learning to write our names.

Reception was next with Miss Walker and Mrs Jeffreys. We learnt to read with Biff, Chip and Kipper and Mrs Jeffreys taught us how to listen well with the giant ears that she used to put on. Once I

was trying to spell something and I accidentally spelt “potty” – whoops! It set off one of my famous giggling fits. I also got my first silver star in reception for drawing a 100 square all by myself.

Next was Year 1 with Miss Dartnall and Mrs Macduff. I loved getting dressed up in my medieval costume for the special assembly after we had been to Leeds Castle. Weekly spelling tests kept us all on our toes!

Year 2 with Miss Atkinson and we were finally at the top of the Lower School. I was Mary in the Nativity and Edward was Joseph – I had to concentrate very hard not to drop the baby Jesus and not to eat the fake bread!

Year 3 with Mr Organ and we had moved up to the Prep School. This felt like a really big change – my new prep school rucksack was almost bigger than me! This was the year that we were all in portakabins and those classrooms got so hot! We finally got to go in the mysterious prep school playground and did our first residential trip at Swattenden.

Year 4 with Miss Arnott and we were in our beautiful new classroom. It felt like we had gone to a completely different school with the new building. It was so exciting. We went to Grosvenor Hall for our residential trip and got to go on the 3g swing - I was so scared though that I wouldn't pull the string that let us go.

Year 5 with Mr Iles and we had to work super hard to start getting ready for entrance exams. We worked hard but also laughed a lot – whenever the front door bell went below our classroom Mr Iles always crossed his fingers that it would be Darcy Bussell making a surprise visit! Year 5 was also

the year of the buzzers – Mr Woodhead’s buzzers were very popular and I was always desperate to do good enough work to buzz them.

Year 6 with Mrs Rudge – well, here we are, and so much has happened. It started with working hard for our exams and then finally getting them out of the way in January. Then started the looooooong wait to find out if we would get into the school we wanted. We had just breathed a sigh of relief at getting all that over with when Covid-19 hit. Home school started and it was really hard - we missed all our friends and teachers and not being able to learn together in a classroom. I am so glad that we could come back and see everyone before we leave for our new secondary schools.

I would like to really thank all the teachers that have helped us through the years. Everyone has always been so supportive at school and I’m so thankful. You have pushed us to do our best work and be the best version of ourselves.

Friends – I’m not talking about the TV show – I’m talking about real life friends - I’d like to thank all of you. They will “always be there for you”, to help you, to encourage you and give you a hug when you need one. A friend can be anyone - even if you don’t like the same things - that’s not what a friendship is. A friend is someone you like because of who they are and their character strengths not just because you like the same ice cream flavour or tv show or hobby.

So now, as I head off to secondary school, I think about all that St Christopher’s has taught me.

- I have learnt that you are never alone and that someone will always be there for you no matter what – I am so lucky to have made so many brilliant friends.
- You should also never ever give up on anything - especially your dreams – hard work can get you a long way!
- And remember to always be yourself no matter what anyone says – each one of you is a unique and wonderful person. I say to all of you – believe in yourself - actually I’d say that to the whole world, no matter who or where they are.

Remember St Christopher’s - you can do anything you put your mind to. Stay strong and fierce and kind and have a fabulous time on the next step along the way!



## Address by Head Boy, Hector Rose

It's been a strange year! I don't think anyone will forget 2020. The last 3 months have been so different to anything we have known before. The good things are that I got to spend more time with my family, learnt to do new things. My mum taught me how to iron! I've stayed up later, started to cook and I've been allowed on the Xbox more than usual!



The hardest challenge during lockdown has been not being able to see my friends and not coming to school. It just wasn't the same having lessons at home - looking in the garden, my football goal calling me!

During all my time at St. Christopher's I have always been happy. My dad said there was never a day I didn't want to go in. I think I've grown up year by year and even though it's sad I think we are all excited and ready for a change. I hope everyone lower down the school is lucky enough to be as happy as I have been. I even like Maths now! Thank you Miss Hicks for boosting my confidence and making me believe I could do it.

English was hard too at first but Mrs. Rudge has helped me understand how to enjoy it and I actually don't think I'm that bad at it now!

Everyone knows I LOVE sport. Mr Myatt and Miss Atkinson have always pushed us and taught us to try our hardest. Even when George Webb and I start moaning if we lose Mr Myatt and Sir tell us to get a grip.

My family tried a few games of cricket in lockdown but Parker my dog turned out to be a great fielder, he got the ball and ran off with it and we couldn't get it back!

I can't think of anything I haven't liked at school. Even the school dinners are tasty. I tell my mum Linda's lasagne is better than hers! Much to her horror!

I'm upset we missed out on going to France with Madame Colwell. Everyone says you visit a really nice bakery and get to eat as many croissants as you want. One year on a school trip Luka do you remember fibbing and saying we needed the toilet but then we ran off to find the meerkats instead?! I think Mrs Craig fell for it...sorry Mrs Craig!!

In art Mr Iles always would play music by Katie (I can't remember her surname) and Luka (again, sorry Luka!) would sing with her and tell Mr Iles he loved her and wanted to marry her! Luka - we will watch this space!

I really loved learning about the Tudors with Mr Woodhead in History and always tried to beat my sister's score with the homework ... and much to my pleasure and her annoyance, I did!!

I will miss St. Christopher's so much. I think it's an ace school that has taught us all to be kind and polite and also to be strong. I will miss my classmates after having the best 9 years with them. I hope you all have the greatest time at your new schools. Maybe 6R and 6H have the next prime minister (maybe you Castle?!) or sportsman (Ed or Joe or George Webb maybe) or a singer. I reckon we have, you're all amazing. Believe you can do anything you want to.

Hesper - thank you for being Head Girl with me (and going first! I was really nervous!)

Mabel Rose ... the pressure is on!

Have a lovely summer everyone.

Hector