

Head Boy Speech - Alex
Prizegiving - Wednesday 3rd July 2019

A year ago after being named Head Boy, I remember my family making their way towards me:

My beanpole older brother clapped me on the shoulder, mumbling, "Not bad Squidget!" Praise indeed from Ben!

My dad gave me a big squeeze, delightedly saying, "Well done Alex - so proud of you!"

My mum was behind him - a strange look on her face.

"Ooh, she's lost for words for a change", I thought to myself. "Oh Alex!" she gasped. "I can't believe it!"

"I know", I thought to myself. "Awesome right?!" I waited with baited breath for her words of praise.....

"Oh Alex.....I can't believe it - you're going to have to make a speech next year!"

Not quite what I expected her to say!

Anyway, here I am and I can see my mum nervously fidgeting in her seat, thinking of unicorns and rainbows to stay calm...breathe mum!

And that makes me think of real rainbows..... formed by the perfect combination of water and sunshine that encourages growth and gives a magical multi-coloured experience with a pot of gold at the end of it!

And now, I think about the wonderful, colourful years I've had at St. David's.

RED is the first colour of the rainbow, as I recall the first class I was in - Nursery with Mrs Hartfield.

Red means Stop! Danger!

The colour that Mrs Hartfield, no doubt, had in her mind one day, as she realised, that I had unscrewed the lid to the jam jar housing my huge pet slug, Jabba, which I had brought in to show everyone - close up!

ORANGE is next, as I remember carrots being dangled to encourage reading in Reception class.

I became quite fond of how frequently Haribo was offered to me by my dad, (for educational purposes of course), as I sat and learned my Word Walls.

YELLOW follows orange in a rainbow and in Form 1, Mrs Rykala certainly made things bright and clear, encouraging me to grow with my writing, beaming like the yellow sun when my full stops weren't huge footballs!

GREEN is next and I am reminded of Mrs Watts (Miss Evans as I knew her back then) and learning about the lifecycle of the common green frog. All toad-ally un-frog-etable! Sorry - couldn't resist that!

The BLUE of Form 3 follows. I remember being quite blue too, as Ms Rogers regularly tested the coldest possible setting on the air conditioning unit - all day, everyday!

Arctic Circle holiday...cross that off my list!

INDIGO and Form 4 - a rich, thoughtful colour in my opinion - who else would that represent? Ah! Mr M! Calmness itself, as long as:

You teach yourself how to fly with those metaphorical "wings" he just insists on giving you all the time.

I thought it would be easier if he taught us to "fly" too, but looking back now, I realise I wouldn't have flown so far without having to work things out on my own, using the tools he gave us.

VIOLET and Form 5 and Shakespeare memories pop into my head.

Well, Miss Varndell, if you ask Mr MacGregor, he would say violet is a flower, not a colour - but then, some might say: what do art teachers really know about colour?!

In any case, I do remember Shakespeare's Juliet famously quoted:

"What's in a name? That which we call a rose by any other name would smell as sweet".

Flower...colour - your choice, but I choose colour to finish off my rainbow!

Finally, to Form 6 and Mr Raffield.

No more colours to add, the rainbow is complete!

Don't worry Mr Raffield, no need to break out into a cold sweat - my rainbow is perfectly formed; it's uniform and well-defined, even and neat!

I have my pot of gold now and all that richness to take on to my next school, Trinity. Bet you can't wait Mr Kennedy!

And now, I just want to finish by saying a very grateful thank you to St David's, to Miss Mardell and all the teachers, for creating the perfect conditions needed for my rainbow to take shape.

I hope all of Form 6 treasure their pots of gold too, ready for September and all the children in our school make the most of the multicoloured experience of support, challenge, friendship and fun, that St David's has to offer.