

19<sup>th</sup> December 2014

Dear Parent/Guardian

***Twelve Gifts at Christmas, a Festive Fairy's Thinking***

It was twelve years ago, this Christmas time, when, in a dream, I met a Christmas fairy who foretold a wonderful story of great things to come.

She granted Abbotsholme's new Headmaster 12 gifts, all to be given in the year 2014 by the final day of the School's 125<sup>th</sup> year.

The gifts bestowed were that Abbotsholme would:

- have marvellous 125<sup>th</sup> birthday celebrations.
- decide to build a synthetic pitch which would benefit all children in the school.
- decide to invest in information technology and provide pupils with iPads to improve teaching and learning in a virtual learning environment.
- have honoured a great teacher with a memorial in the Roseyard.
- have re-established good relationships with a far Eastern land and that cherry pink will become the predominant colour at the front of school.
- be in a sound financial position, with supportive bankers.
- have amongst its staff, a wise lady who would celebrate 100 terms of service.
- have pupils who contributed to the school's best GCSE and A Level results in recent history.
- have marked the anniversary of the start of World War I in a most appropriate manner.
- have a car park that would be a tranquil place for the Friday evening pick-up.
- have its own Pre-Prep School that would achieve an outstanding Ofsted report.

Emma the Christmas Fairy's final gift was, that Abbotsholme would be a school where every moment matters.

Emma was an outstandingly clever fairy, not only could she predict iPads before they were invented, she knew what made a good school. And so it came to pass, Emma's predictions of Christmas future all became true in 2014.

***It has been a very good year.***

I would like to meet Emma again this Christmas Eve. I am confident that with her 20/20 vision, she will, once again, foretell of great things to come, however, being older and wiser, I will ask about the lottery numbers this time!

Heather and Meg join me in wishing you a very happy Christmas and a prosperous New Year.

Glad Day, Love and Duty



**Steve Fairclough  
Headmaster**

