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Dear Parents and Carers

It is with immense pride that I am writing to you to celebrate yet another amazing achievement for our school. We have been recognised by *The Sunday Times* with not one, but **two** highly prestigious accolades in their annual, "Parent Power" school awards.

This year, we have been named the Comprehensive School of the Year for Academic Excellence (a national award) as well as the Comprehensive School of the Year in the Southeast (again!). This brings the number of Sunday Times awards bestowed upon the school since 2017 to five, cementing our reputation for sustained excellence and affirming our continued pursuit of "excellence in everything," as we say in *The Owen's Way*.

Our school song reminds us that, when "the whole team works as one," we can achieve anything. At Dame Alice Owen's School, the whole team really does work as one and we are committed to achieving academic excellence while simultaneously ensuring the emotional support and well-being of every young person in our care. Our students are developed through well-designed, rigorous lessons, given careful support and a wealth of engaging extracurricular opportunities that build character, leadership, and resilience. Young people need all of this to be the best versions of themselves that they can be.

It remains a profound privilege to work with such intelligent, engaged and ambitious young people and their supportive families. I am blessed to work with a professional team of a calibre I have never before encountered; they are unrivalled in their dedication, unwavering care, and sheer drive which keep our standards exceptionally high.

Finally, as a school, we thank our Trustee, the Worshipful Company of Brewers, for their continued interest, vital investment, and long-standing belief in our mission. We are also grateful to our Governing Body, whose insightful support and strategic challenge ensure we remain reflective and focused on keeping Owen's at the very top of its game.

This is another fantastic recognition of all we achieve together; I hope you are as proud of your school and the part you have all played in helping us reach this point as I am.

With warmest congratulations and sincere thanks,

Hannah Nemko Headteacher

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