

May 2020

Dear Year 6

My name is Miss Smith and I am an English teacher at Ivybridge Community College. I was born in Guildford, in Surrey, but grew up in the southwest, moving between Yelverton and Exeter before finally settling in Cornwall. I have a brother and a sister, both of whom are younger than me, so I'm used to bossing people around. Growing up, I always had pets, but now that I'm a teacher I don't have any. I love food and reading and stupid challenges, but I really hate liver and people who say 'I can't'.

I am really excited to see you all at Ivybridge Community College. I know that some of you will be nervous; some of you will be excited; some of you will just be looking forward to the canteen! I probably know some of your brothers and sisters, maybe some of your parents, and probably some of your friends from the year above – I hope they have all told you good things about the College.

My theme park (SmithLand) sums me up quite well, I think. At the heart of it is the 'Literary Rollercoaster', which I think shows my love for the ups and downs of a good book. To get to it, you need to find your way through the 'Get Lost in a Good Book Maze', which is something that I love to do. This is linked to the 'Turn the Page Carousel', which reflects the highs and lows of a good plot. There is the 'Cycling Carousel', which shows my newest hobby (and that sometimes when I'm cycling and trying to train, I feel a bit like I'm going round in circles). This ride is linked to the 'Stupid Challenge Drop Tower'. The tower represents the high I feel when I complete a stupid challenge, as well as the terrifying fear that I feel in the lead up to it (some stupid challenges include the London Marathon, the Grizzly, and agreeing to cycle to Barcelona – all terrifying). The 'Disney Bumper Cars' are to show my love for Disney films. The bumper cars show how hard it is for me to decide on a favourite; each time I think I've decided, another great one crashes into it! Last, but by no means least, is the 'Best Burger Café', because I really love burgers. The café will have a huge variety of different types of burger – at least twenty different types – so that everyone can love their burger as much as I love them. I had to do some renovations in SmithLand; initially I went quite far over budget so I had to go back to my plan and think more carefully about certain areas. Now that it's done, I really want to visit.

I think that if I were a science experiment, I would be one that is very slow to do anything (I'm always being moaned at for taking too long at things). Once I started to react, there would be a slow fizz but with lots of unexpected and unplanned bangs and sudden explosions. I don't think I'm very predictable, but I am very enthusiastic, so the explosions would represent that part of my personality quite well. I would also turn things green, because it's my favourite colour.

As you can tell from my theme park, I love reading. At the moment, I'm reading 'Noughts and Crosses' by Malorie Blackman and I'm really enjoying it. I love how she has turned the society that we know on its head. It is a retelling of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet, which is one of my all-time favourite stories, and that's another reason why I like it. I think my favourite book (books – I can't pick just one) are the Harry Potter books or maybe Frankenstein. I love Victorian literature, so anything from that era is good.

I could write to you about books all day, however I must go so that I can carry on reading, and you can start writing your letter to us. I can't wait to read them, and to see your theme parks and hear about your science experiments. We've got a lot of fun to come!

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully

Miss Smith