



Lord Low of Dalston, CBE

To: Mr Jack Petchey
Exchange House
13-14 Clements Court
Clements Lane
Ilford
IG1 2QZ

25th March 2013

Dear Jack,

You may remember that we met at the Dorchester reception last October to welcome Dame Gail Ronson as President of RNIB, and we discussed my visiting the Petchey Academy since I live so close at hand. You will be pleased to know that I paid a most successful visit there earlier this month and came away most impressed with what I saw. It is a lovely, light and airy building, which I am pleased to say the children appeared to treat with respect, and even more to the point, there is an excellent atmosphere of discipline and purposeful learning.

I attended a Year 10 assembly when six of the young people who had been shortlisted made presentations to see which two would go forward to represent the school in a public speaking competition. I am bound to say I would have had a hard job deciding which were the best as they all gave such a good account of themselves. I then spoke for about 15 minutes about disability discrimination, which fitted in well with some work they had been doing on discrimination generally in the last few weeks and I also managed to throw in one or two remarks about the House of Lords and why I had selected Dalston as my title. I was then interviewed by four of the students who were doing a particular project on disability discrimination.

Altogether I was quite inspired. You must be very proud of what you have created and I send you my warmest congratulations. Ms Cole, the Head,

kindly agreed that it would be an excellent idea if the school were to participate in "Read for RNIB Day" in October and I will send a pack to the school about what they have to do when it is ready in May. It is a way of raising funds for RNIB, but you will be happy to know that the school gets to keep 20% as well.

I hope we may continue to keep in touch about ways in which we can work together for the benefit both of the Petchey Academy and RNIB.

With very best wishes

Yours sincerely,

C. M. Low

Colin Low

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