

## **Forældretale ved Dimissionen på Herlufsholm Skole 25.juni 2025**

*ved Johanne Riegels*

### **This is the end...**

This is the end, of the beginning, of the rest of your lives

- Dear Graduates - Kære Studenter!

Congratulation on finishing your Gymnasium or International Baccalaureate!!!

You will most likely no longer be pupils and most likely soon be students. These two terms in many ways coin the change in your development. From closely guided teaching to much more self-propelled learning – life-long learning.

As a parent, I am confident, that your years at Herlufsholm have prepared you well for this change.

These past years at Herlufsholm with the 14-day rhythm, the rigidity of the everyday, the requirements of various courses and the commitment to Herlufsholm udmærkelse, you have learned to manage in a 'disagreeing community' – that is a society where co-existence and respect despite disagreement on some or many topics is pleasant, possibly due to a strong moral and ethical compass. Ethics and moral are important pillars under democracy and our legal system – nurture them!

Hopefully these years at Herlufsholm have instilled in you:

### **Courage, Duty, Curiosity and Kindness or should it be Temperance?**

- *Courage* – the ability to take the right decision or direction – even when most things around you indicate something else and even when you might not personally benefit from it
- *Duty* – the ability to do what is needed in a situation and often also require stamina to follow through
- *Curiosity* – the urge to search for knowledge and new horizons
- *Kindness* – the ability to be generous and to forgive

With these and many more abilities hit the road of life – broaden your skills – create families and communities – and make the world a place, where you want your children to grow up – aim high, aim for peace with all that it requires.

Birgitte Gøye and Herluf Trolle aimed for this through righteousness, generosity, love and spiritual stature – let this continue to be your inspiration.

**Dear Stander, Heis, Teachers, Boarding House Masters and all other staff,**

On behalf of the parents, I want to thank you for the energy you have put into creating the everyday here at Herlufsholm for our children. It takes academic ambition, planning, calibration, innovation, speed, knowledge of history & traditions and not least a sense of societal development.

The everyday however have been spiced up by field trips, study tours, sports tournaments, parties and time for individual support and solutions that has allowed our children to develop and grow like generations before them and like the crops and the forest around the school complex.

I could not resist to look back 100 years to 1925 – a year where 8 graduates left Herlufsholm and where tuition was 1.400 DKK for a year as a boarder. Much has happened since then – 3 generations have passed through the school and this year Herlufsholm through your dedicated work has “produced” 97 graduates.

My hope is you will continue to further develop the school, so it is a relevant institution in the society of tomorrow – just like generations of teachers and staff before you have done.

Thank you again for your work and dedication to the development of our children!!

**Dear graduates –**

The next few weeks you might feel caught between your past at Herlufsholm that refuse to die and a future that still hesitates to begin.

My guess is you will always remember this time, the sent of flowering bushes, the rhythm and lyrics of “the summer of ‘25” and your feelings for each other – they are so special!

By now you certainly **know more**, as parents we believe you **can achieve more**, and it is now up to you to **do more!**

**We trust in you – We entrust the future to you!**

Please join me in sharing a toast to the teachers, staff, leadership and graduates!