

**AN ADDRESS PRESENTED BY MRS. E.S. AKPAN, THE HEADTEACHER, UNIVERSITY STAFF SCHOOL, FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI AT THE VALEDICTORY VISIT OF THE 6<sup>TH</sup> SUBSTANTIVE VICE-CHANCELLOR OF THE FEDERAL UNIVERSITY OF TECHNOLOGY, OWERRI, PROF. CHIGOZIE CYRIL ASIABAKA, KSM, JP TO THE SCHOOL ON FRIDAY, 6TH MAY, 2016.**

**PROTOCOL:**

***The Vice-Chancellor, Prof C.C. Asiabaka, KSM, JP;***

***Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academics);***

***Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Administration);***

***Registrar;***

***Bursar;***

***University Librarian;***

***Deans and Directors;***

***Staff and Pupils of the University Staff School;***

**It gives me great pleasure and I feel highly honoured and delighted to be part of this historic occasion of the valedictory visit of our outgoing 6<sup>th</sup> Substantive Vice-Chancellor, Prof. Chigozie Cyril Asiabaka, KSM, JP.**

**I consider it absolutely necessary for all of us here present to collectively congratulate you for you have done successfully well and you have a soft-landing by singing this song together, (*“What shall we say unto the Lord, all we have to say is thank you Lord.....”*).**

**The journey of five years is gradually coming to an end and this outgoing administration has already repositioned the Federal University of Technology, Owerri. You have taken FUTO to higher heights as we can see better results.**

**Federal University of Technology, Owerri is no longer situated in a thick forest with few buildings dotted along the road. You can now stand on one end of the University and see the other end even from the Senate building to the old Registry adorned with beautiful buildings and tarred roads.**

**You will also agree with me that his mantra, “Quest for Excellence” has been achieved. FUTO is now ranked among the first best eight universities in Nigeria.**

**Sir, we must not fail to thank you for your love for the Staff School even though you have not been physically present with us in most of our activities because of the exigencies of your office, but suffice it to say that you have always sent us able Representatives which shows love and respect.**

**We will be deceiving ourselves if we fail to salute you from the bottom of our hearts for the very intelligent and fatherly way you have handled the Staff School issue of which other University Staff Schools are still grappling with. This is why we never took part in strike actions. Also, you never denied us opportunities during your tenure to attend conferences, seminars, workshops not even our mouth-watering Christmas party, send-forth party, inter-house sports, etc for the Staff School was a yearly activity during your tenure. They were all very well hosted by you, we say thank you Sir.**

**We will not fail to mention the renovation of the Staff School toilets, the furnishing of the Headmistress’s office, provision of desktop computers, photocopying machine and painting of the school building. Also, we cannot fail to mention the improved transport system in the Staff School.**

**We will also want to put on record that during your tenure, the School achieved tremendous feat in the following:**

- **High profile in internal and external examinations.**

- **Came out first in external competitions like French, Sports and Debates organized by the State and different private Schools in Imo State.**
- **Teachers were promoted as at when due.**

**In addition to these, the staff and pupils of this School would like to use this opportunity to say thank you to the wife of our Vice-Chancellor, our BIG MUMMY indeed, Nneoma Prof. (Mrs.) I.P. Asiabaka for her care, support, love and various programmes organized for the pupils of this School. Thank you, Ma.**

**We are happy to report that the University Staff School had fared very very well during the administration of Prof. C.C. Asiabaka and we are very happy to receive him in this valedictory visit. The Staff School remains confident that the new administration will fare equally well given the fact that the successive administration had been a team player in the succeeded administration.**

**As you wind up as the 6<sup>th</sup> Substantive Vice-Chancellor of the Federal University of Technology, Owerri, I, the Headmistress, staff and pupils of the University Staff School wish you success and happiness in your future endeavours.**

**May the good Lord you revere and worship shine His light; grant you His favours as you have affected positive and glaring changes in this great citadel of learning, may He never depart from you. Our Almighty God will guide and protect you wherever He leads you.**

**Thank you for showering us with your fatherly love and care.**

**Mrs. E.S. Akpan,  
Headmistress, USS.**

