

35 Butts Green Road
Emerson Park
Hornchurch
Essex

Hornchurch (04024) 50804

1 February 1986.

Dear Sir,

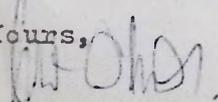
I am sending this letter of sympathy to your school as I felt it was the only sure way that it would be received by the appropriate people. I address this letter to all the people who knew Mrs. Christa McAuliffe, to her family and to all the friends and relatives of the crew of the Space Shuttle "Challenger"

Dear All,

I am one of the millions of British citizens who were shocked and horrified to hear what had happened on Tuesday 28 January. I tuned in to the news on television and to my horror I saw those terrible pictures from Cape Canaveral. At first I could not believe what I was seeing but I soon realised that it was real and at that point it felt as if my heart had stopped beating. As I watched the news reports from the U.S. I felt a great deal of sadness within me and also a sense of loss. I know that it can not be compared to what you are all feeling at this moment but I just wanted to let you know that myself and many of my fellow country men and women share this terrible loss with you. I myself am a firm believer in the Shuttle programme and I hope that soon it will be exploring space for us again. I will never forget that glorious day in April 1981 when the "Columbia" lifted off for the first time. That day marked the beginning of an era and I hope that this tragic event does not mark the end of that era.

I do not think there is much I can say except that my heart and my thoughts are with you at this moment and I wish you all the very best for the future.

Yours,


Robert. A. Oberti



7-45

4-18

The Principal,
Concord High School,
Concord,
New Hampshire,
United States Of America.

Roberto Oberti

35, Butts Green Rd.
Emerson Park

Hornchurch-Essex

Great Britain

RO