



20 July 2021

End of year letter.

As we end the academic year, there is a lot for us here in school to be thankful for despite the significant challenges of the year. Like you, I do not want our children to be defined by the pandemic, although we cannot ignore the impact it has had on them, your families, our school, our country and the world more broadly. Today, I want to focus on the 'good news' that we can take from the year.

Thank you to all parents for your support, for adapting with us as the chapters of the pandemic unfolded that we could not have known in advance. Thank you for the time you spent 'home schooling' during isolation periods or lockdowns. We never expected you to fulfil the role of teachers at home, but I know many of you did as great parents do. A lot was asked of you and for that I am hugely grateful.

Thank you to all our students for their resilience, for coping with so much disruption and for their adjustment to remote learning, mask wearing, handwashing, COVID testing in and out of school and, in addition to all that, getting on with their learning.

It is not the year we had hoped for them and we will do all we can from September to address the time lost this year. If you look on our Facebook page you will see our recognition for students in all year groups.

Student Leadership Team

Last week, we conducted interviews for our prefect team. From September, they will be known as our Student Leadership Team. I am delighted to announce the following:

Head Prefects: Lily Henson, Abigail Hunt.

Deputy Head Prefects: Melissa Jones, Elisabeth Roberts, Olivia Todd, Annabelle Whitter.

Senior Prefects: Natalie Danson, Lily Edwards, Max Isherwood, Jack Kershaw, Noah Poole, Lily Robinson, Lilia Yates.

In addition, we are developing a wider framework for students to have lead roles in school. This will include Form Representatives, School Councils, Staff Recruitment Panels, Eco-champions, Social Action and others. All of these will be in addition to the role of prefect which applies only to Year 11.

Start of term in September.

As I said in my letter last week, we will be having a staggered start to the new academic year in September so that we can complete COVID testing to filter out any asymptomatic cases. From September, close contacts of a positive case will not be sent home. As a reminder:

Monday 6 September	New Year 7 at 8.30am.
	New Year 11 at 10.45am.
Tuesday 7 September	New Year 9 at 8.30am.
Wednesday 8 September	New Year 10 at 8.30am.
Thursday 9 September	New Year 8 at 8.30am.

I hope and pray you and your family have a good summer break.

Yours sincerely,

Kieran Larkin
Headteacher

CARING, LEARNING AND SUCCEEDING