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21 July 2020

## Dear Parent/Guardian

This newsletter marks the end of an incredible term and a half in our lives. I hope that the next few months mark a return to more normalised ways of living and working and our students can begin to get their lives, friendships and education back on course.

One thing that isn't specifically mentioned in the presentation is our Covid mitigation strategy. This is outlined in more detail below however, one must remember that this is likely to be fluid, based on the guidance available from the government. However, we sent you a separate e-mail today very much focused upon the operational matters that September entails.

At this time of year, we also take time to say goodbye to our departing staff. Firstly, Ms Mirza who will be sadly missed by many students. A teacher who is relentless in her pursuit of excellence she has been a beacon of outstanding practice and has helped many students to achieve great marks in the last few years. We wish her well in her new adventures and tutoring work. We also say goodbye to Ms Ryan who has been our part time SENCO across this academic year. Ms Ryan brought with a wealth of knowledge and experience into the role and she will be missed by all who worked with her and came across her positive and optimistic personality. Lastly, we wish Ms Mallon a fond farewell. Ms Mallon joined us in January and will be leaving to pursue her love of SEN education at a school specialising in supporting children with autism. We wish her all the best.

I am delighted to report that we are fully staffed for September. Our new staff are Ms Gleen who will be Assistant Headteacher in charge of Teaching and Learning, Mr Jones who will be joining our Maths department, Miss Shepherd will be joining the History department, Miss Preston will be joining our English team and lastly, Mrs Gopal who will be in the Maths department.

I am also delighted to announce that from September we will have Heads of Houses in place for our big launch of the House system in mid-September.

Mr WattersonPeppard HouseRedMr AllumAbbey HouseOrangeMiss SwayneChiltern HouseGreenMiss FayThames HouseBlue

We have tried to make some links with our local area in our house names and steer away from any personality links as reputations and significance can shift so easily over time. We can't wait to launch this and there will be a range of competitions including academic, music and drama alongside the more traditional sporting events to all bring our community together more and increase that sense of good-humoured competition that is such an important part of school life.

I'd also like to announce very proudly our new Head Students for 2020/2021. James B and Hibbah A, Year 11 students, will be taking on these prestigious roles. Both interviewed superbly, showing a maturity and presence beyond their years and we can't wait to see them leading the student body and leaving a positive legacy on the school.

I have also recorded an assembly that is posted on Google Classroom to mark the end of term. Click on the below link to view the assembly

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=H6d9X0xJsu4&t=2s

The message of the assembly is that despite the challenges of this awful Covid-19 situation so many positive and good things have emerged from it and continue to emerge from it and whenever possible we should take the opportunities that the lockdown has presented us with.

Lastly, can I say just how grateful I am for all of your support since I began in January. The school is moving rapidly in the right direction and those improvements could not have been made without your support and engagement.

Have a great summer and we can't wait for the start of the new term in September with everyone back. Take care and stay safe.

Best wishes

Andrew Hartley Headteacher