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20th December 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 8

As Christmas fast approaches, we can look back on a busy term. Year 8 have yet again been amazing and have thrown themselves into every opportunity available to them.

We started this term with our annual MacMillan coffee morning. Year 8, along with Year 7, were tasked with donating cakes for the event and they attacked this challenge by donating the largest huge amounts of cake than ever before. It proved to be very successful and we managed to raise over £700 for The Macmillan cancer charity!

Last week we had a representative from the NHS who gave an assembly on an upcoming competition. I really hope that there will be many submissions, as it is a fantastic opportunity to research about different careers.

In computing lessons, students took part in the UK Bebras Challenge competition, which involves solving problems using computational thinking skills. Computational thinking involves using a set of problem-solving skills and techniques that software engineers use to write programs and apps. Additionally, there was the Maths Challenge that was organised by the Maths Department. This was won by 8B overall, so well done. Well done to 8T for winning the inter-house netball challenge, and 8C coming a close second.

Our presentation assembly was a time to reflect on the achievements this term. I would like to say a thank you to Holly, Amy and Fiona for their presentation on debating. Thanks also to Katie and Tomi for their speech on competing in the netball South East Tournament. Lottie created a video to show her fabulous tumbling in tumbling world championships. Jemima played the violin, and Olivia and Ayat played piano pieces. We also had a solo singing performance from Niha. It takes a lot of courage to perform in front of the whole year group, and they did so very well indeed. Thank you so much.

I would like to wish you and your daughters a merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. We will return on the 6<sup>th</sup> of January, see you in 2020!

Yours sincerely,

Ms Herron Head of Year 8