

15th July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 7 - End of term letter

What a term of remote teaching and learning it has been! First of all, I wanted to say a massive thank you for all of the support you have shown to both your daughter's learning and to the school during this unprecedented time. Taking over as Head of Year remotely has presented its challenges, but I have thoroughly enjoyed beginning to forge relationships with yourselves and your daughters remotely, and I have been overwhelmed by the kindness, understanding, and support that I have received.

Over the past 4 months the students have had to completely adapt to a new way of learning from navigating the use of our new platform Microsoft TEAMS to perfecting their organisational skills; from communicating with staff over email and practicing their use of professional language to attending live subject and tutor time sessions; from completing assessments online to receiving and acting on feedback independently; the list really does go on! I have been so impressed by their positive attitude to learning, the maturity that has been demonstrated, and their ability to reflect and act on feedback from their teachers. The girls have shown great resilience during these times and I am really proud of their efforts.

Not only have the students been kept busy academically, but they have also been encouraged to participate in extracurricular events such as house competitions. House Dance is always a particularly popular event in the summer term and lockdown has been no exception! Dance routines have been carefully choreographed and filming completed with the hope of winning house points; healthy inter-house competition is definitely encouraged and the girls thrive on it! It is always so lovely to see them coming together as form groups and participating in house events. Some girls have also turned their hands to baking and participated in the house baking competition – the professionalism of their bakes was remarkable. In addition, we have all been encouraged to clock up the kilometres in our running shoes to add to the house totals and reminded that staying active helps boost our wellbeing. Students sent in contributions of poems, artwork, postcards, and musical items to pass onto the residents at Glebelands Care Home and these were warmly received. Finally, I know many girls will have contributed to the singing of 'Reach for the Stars' as a dedication to the memory of Mr. Furlong; this will be extremely moving and a beautiful tribute.

I look forward to welcoming back your daughters in September, and wish you a very happy and healthy summer holidays.

Yours sincerely



Miss N. Izod
Head of Year 7