

3rd April 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 8 end of term letter

As we are due to approach the Easter holidays, I hope that this will be a time for Year 8 to have a rest and enjoy the lovely sunshine. The past few weeks have been unusual, although the year group have been successfully getting to grips with remote learning.

If we look back over past term, there have been some great achievements to recognise.

The whole of Year 8 took part in the Bebras Challenge in November where they had to solve computational thinking tasks. The 16 girls who achieved a top national 10% Bebras challenge score for their age group were invited to take part in another computational thinking competition – Oxford Computing Challenge. This term, 13 of these students took on the challenge and had to solve as many problems as possible in one hour. The results have now been published and the following students achieved a Distinction – Phoebe and Emily, Merit – Maya, Elle and Namah. Unfortunately, they did not get through to the finals but a very well done to all those who took part.

In March, we had a whole school production of *Beauty and the Beast*, one of my all-time favourite Disney classics. Year 8 were heavily involved with the play. A special mention to Grace who played Monsieur D'Arque, this was an excellent solo performance. Hannah, Edie, Mirella, Josie and Rosa as part of the chorus and dancers. Lily, Niamh and Nanette for front of house. With Aimee as a bookseller. I was proud to watch you all, and I know that there was a great deal of rehearsal and time dedicated to such a wonderful production.

A sporting achievement was the Year 8 hockey team who came 3rd in the plate at a Berkshire Hockey Tournament. All girls received a certificate and these were handed out in our assembly, so well done for taking part and rating so highly.

There were three Year 8 entries to the History Department's Easter egg challenge from Sophie - Issac Newton, Georgina - Rosa Parks and Hajira with Donald Trump and Hillary Clinton. Mrs Hagger was very impressed with the effort put in by these submissions.

I do hope that your daughters are using this time to enjoy pastimes or learn a new skill. This is a great opportunity to develop a keen interest in something new.

I wish you all a very happy Easter; hopefully you will be able to have an Easter egg or two. I hope that you all stay safe and well, and I wish you all a lovely restful break.

Yours sincerely



Ms A Herron
Head of Year 8