

16th July 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Re: Year 8 – End of term letter

We have come to the end of Year 8, and it has certainly been under such unusual circumstances. Despite this, over the past four months your daughters have shown great determination, resilience and independence in their learning. I am so proud of how well they have adapted to the ongoing situation, as this was a huge undertaking for everyone and they have continued to work so hard throughout. The skills they have developed will definitely be important for when they return next year. Although, I know they are all ready for a break, and this will give them an opportunity to relax and enjoy some time to unwind.

I have enjoyed joining in with the morning registrations each week, which has given Year 8 the ability to engage in a weekly discussion with their tutors. There have been discussion items on the Black Lives Matter movement, to the positives of lockdown and enjoyment of reading too. This weekly drop-in schedule gave many students the opportunity to discuss ideas on current topics, as well as share what they had been up to, and I even saw some pictures of lovely cakes they had made.

Even though schools have closed, this has not stopped us setting House events to take part in. There was The Holt Great Bake Off competition that took place from home, with entries from Mollie in 8S who came first, Summer from 8B taking second place and Georgia in 8C who came third. There have been some fantastic entries for the House dance and house drama competitions too. The House dance results are as follows, 8S won first position with 8T coming a close second. I recognise the real effort put in to these events and this shows that community spirit has continued throughout. Additionally, the maths department have informed me of the results from the maths challenge last week. From Year 8, there were 71 students that took part, with 18 Bronze certificates achieved, 17 Silver and two Gold. Maya was joint best in school with 107 points. I am so pleased with how well they did, it is a huge achievement. Well done to all who took part in a House event this term.

Given these uncertain times, I encourage Year 8 to take the time to relax and look after their mental health. One of the best ways for this is to surround themselves by their loved ones and friends, and this is possible to do safely now. Please do encourage your daughter to arrange to spend time out of the house meeting up with friends and family.

I am looking forward to welcoming your daughters back in September; I have certainly missed the daily interactions we have. I am sure that they will be happy to come back to school, see all of their friends and get back to normality. I would like to wish you a happy and hopefully sunny summer break!

Yours sincerely

Ms A. Herron

Ms Herron
Head of Year 8