

CLO/jr  
July 2022

Dear Parents/Carers

### **Message from Mrs Oakley**

The end of term is fast approaching and I cannot believe how time has flown this year. Once more our students have shown commitment, energy, enthusiasm and a positive attitude to their learning; they embrace all the opportunities afforded to them. The school site has been a hive of activity, with smiling, eager faces enjoying our Day to Create, Paultons Park and Sports day to name but a few! This is obviously supported by a fabulous team of staff who care passionately about what they do for our students. Unfortunately we cannot forget the impact that COVID still had this year, with high student and staff absence especially during the Spring term.

A warm welcome to our new Year 7 parents who for the first time have been included in these communications so that they can see the plans for the start of the academic year as well as join our school community.

Thankfully, when we look back on this year we can see that we are returning to pre-COVID ways with so many achievements from individual to team successes, major productions as well as concerts, dance showcases, day trips, experiences to higher education, visitors in lessons and MFL plays within school. All of this adds to the rich experiences we hope all students benefit from as they journey through the school.

On top of this, our students have been recognised for their energy, talent and hard work across the year with over 245,000 positive e-refs and that is not counting all the postcards that arrive on the door mat! This is such an amazing achievement!

One huge highlight across the year for us to celebrate and applaud is the charity work that the whole school community has engaged in – be it the Race for Life, our basics bank collection, our shoe box appeal or our support for the Ukrainian refugee humanitarian crisis – all these events support our attribute for Kindness and really show how our students full embody this quality.

We are all very much aware that many children are still struggling post-COVID. It is therefore more important than ever that we work together and have your full support to ensure that our children have the right attitude for learning, they are treating each other with care and respect and that they are keeping themselves safe online by making good decisions to stay away from damaging online influences. Please help your son or daughter to get off to a really successful start in September by making sure that they have:

- the basic school equipment – a sensible school bag and pen, pencil, ruler, calculator;
- correct school uniform
- correct PE/Dance kit

## **E-Safety**

As we know when children have free time they often spend it on-line especially when on holiday. To help protect your child from inappropriate online influences over the summer and help them to be in the best frame of mind to learn when back at school, we know that many parents find the following very helpful:

- Limit online time to sensible amounts;
- Help ensure a good night's sleep by preventing your child having access to their phone overnight;
- Install age appropriate settings on internet use. The following links provides advice on setting parental controls:
  - <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/parental-controls/>
  - <https://support.apple.com/en-gb/HT201304>.

## **End of Term Arrangements**

Term ends on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> July at 1.30pm.

## **Start of Term Arrangements 2022-23:**

### **For all:**

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September - CPD day  
Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> September - whole school in school.  
School photographs for all students

### **Year 7:**

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> September – Year 7 programme  
Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September – Year 7 programme  
Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September - Year 7 Programme

### **Other Years**

Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September and Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> September - 'Meeting Me' conversations between tutor, tutees and parents. Please see details of how to book your appointments in the Wildern weekly.

## **Staff In-Service Training Days 2022-23**

Students will not be in school on the following INSET Days:

Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> September  
Friday 14<sup>th</sup> October  
Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> February  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June

Have the most wonderful summer. As Jenny Han says, **'Everything good, everything magical happens between the months of June and August.'** Let's hope so!

With best wishes

Mrs C Oakley  
Headteacher

