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31<sup>st</sup> March 2023

Dear Parent / Carer,

As the end of term approaches, I wanted to write to congratulate Year 7 on completing another stand out term.

As a Year Group, they have gathered 19,479 positive points between them. This shows the commitment they have to their learning and the drive they have to succeed.

The start of the term saw some key changes to support our students. Following student feedback, it became clear that there were concerns with movement in corridors, so January saw the re-introduction of our 'one-way system'. Students also highlighted that the Canteen was particularly busy at lunch time, so new timings to the School day allowed for split lunches to occur, creating a more settled environment. We will continue to encourage our students' ideas to help shape their learning experience at The Buckingham School.

We have continued our drive for student recognition and alongside the rewards in place, the following have also been introduced this term:

- Students now receive a Bronze, Silver and Gold badge in honour of their fantastic achievements with House Points. This will accompany a Certificate.
- Weekly "Golden Tickets" are given out every Friday, where students collect a treat from the main playground.
- Weekly "Queue Jump" passes awarded to individuals from a member of staff.
- "Shout Out" postcards sent home
- "Pizza and Pop" reward lunch (this term recognising improved attendance).

We also have some Extra-Curricular Shout Outs from staff this term. Here are a few that have come my way. A massive well done to the following:

- Connie Winkworth and Izze Lukey are currently working towards their Gold Choreography Awards in Dance.
- Neve Cooper and Holly Ryder have shown outstanding commitment to Drama Club and also took part in our School Show.
- Year 7 Netball Team undefeated in their last 4 matches in district league this season! Wins against RLS, Thornton College, Waddesdon, & Mandeville, with Lottie Brothers as Captain. Next season, in Year 8, we are excited to have an A & B team!

Sadly, at the end of this term we will be saying goodbye to Mrs Hodges. I have personally worked with Mrs Hodges for a number of years now. She is an exceptional teacher and a wonderful colleague. We will miss her dearly in the team. Mrs Hodges has always gone that extra mile for students and I know the students of 7 Swan will be sad to see her go.

Mrs Hodges will be pleased to hear that 7 Swan will be in great hands as we welcome Miss Brown to the Year 7 team. Miss Brown is joining The Buckingham School as a teacher of Modern Foreign Languages. I know she will be in touch with parents when she has settled in, to formally introduce herself.

I am sure that many of you are welcoming a well deserved rest. Although many are looking forward to the break, we recognise that this continues to be a challenging time for others. Below is a link to our school website with support helplines available.

<https://www.buckinghamschool.org/news/?pid=3&nid=1&storyid=3511>

Finally, I would like to thank you for your ongoing support of the School and we wish you and your family a Happy Easter break.

Best wishes to you all!

Yours faithfully,

**Miss C Checkley**

Head of Year 7

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