



19th July 2023

Dear Parents / Carers of Year 9 (J10),

I hope this letter finds you in high spirits and proud of your child's accomplishments during this academic year. As we near the end of the School year, I wanted to take this opportunity to commend each and every Year 9 student for the exceptional progress and achievements they have made.

Throughout the year, I have witnessed first-hand how well students have adapted to their new option subjects. Their dedication and enthusiasm in embracing these challenges have been truly remarkable. Students' efforts have not gone unnoticed and as a result, have achieved a significant number of positive points, reflecting their commitment to academic excellence and personal growth.

One of the highlights of this year was our Enrichment Week, where our students had the opportunity to explore their passions and delve into new areas of interest. From workshops and field trips to hands-on activities, it was heartening to witness the enthusiasm and joy our students displayed as they learned and discovered new horizons.

We were fortunate to host a TED Talk delivered by Jamie Denyer, also known as "The Grief Preacher." His powerful words and personal experiences touched the hearts of our students, helping them understand and cope with grief and life challenges in a profound way. The talk left a lasting impact on our School community, fostering empathy, compassion and resilience among our students. We also had our Drop-Down day, where the students were exemplary in learning about some 'taboo' topics such as online social aggression, pornography and sexually transmitted diseases.

The vibrant and colourful atmosphere of our annual Colour Run brought smiles to everyone's faces. Seeing our students enthusiastically participate and support one another was a testament to the sense of unity and inclusivity that defines our School. It was a day filled with laughter, joy and a shared sense of camaraderie.

Moving forward, I want to emphasise the importance of maintaining the high standards that we have set as a School community. One of the areas that will require particular attention is our Uniform Policy. From September, I expect a real focus on adhering to the correct uniform guidelines. Presenting ourselves in a smart and unified manner reflects our pride in being part of this school and our respect for its values.

I have every confidence that this year's progress will continue to flourish and I anticipate an even more successful year ahead. September will bring with it a continued rise in expectations, but I have no doubt that as a year group, our students will rise to meet them with their characteristic determination and resilience.

Before the year comes to an end, I would like to take a moment to express my gratitude to two tutors who have been an integral part of your journey this year. Mrs. Arnold and Miss Wheatley have been outstanding in their roles, providing guidance, support, and encouragement to each of you. Their dedication to student wellbeing and academic growth has left a lasting impact. We will miss them dearly as tutors, but I know that they will continue to inspire and make a difference in their new roles.

On a positive note, I am delighted to welcome Mr S Kong as the new tutor for Swan 2 and Mrs J Ranger for Chandos. I have no doubt that they will continue to foster a supportive and nurturing environment for all.

As we approach the summer break, I would like to encourage all of our students to take the time to rest, rejuvenate and prepare for the exciting journey that lies ahead. Their achievements this year have set a high standard and I am confident that they will continue to excel in all that they do.

Once again, congratulations to all on a wonderful year. I would like to thank you every Year 9 student for being exemplary representatives of our School. Enjoy your well-deserved break, and I look forward to seeing you return in September, ready to embrace new challenges and achieve even greater heights. You make me extremely proud to be your head of year, and always remember, being kind goes a long way.

Wishing you a restful summer break.

Yours faithfully,

Mr C Lagdon

Head of Year 9

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