



Thursday 22nd October 2020

Dear parent/guardian

I hope this end of term letter finds you and your family well.

End of term

Thank you for your support this term. It's been brilliant to have the students back in school over the last 8 weeks. We're very pleased that, despite the necessary restrictions, we've been able to offer the full curriculum for all students.

Thank you for helping us to keep the whole-school community safe since September by following the [guidance](#) on symptoms and self-isolation. It's clear that we'll have to continue this vigilant approach for the foreseeable future. Thank you also for communicating with us so well. Please continue to keep us informed, throughout the half-term holiday, about any Covid-19 related situations pertaining to your household.

Our new routines have worked well this term; as you'd expect, the students have responded brilliantly to the new procedures around the school. We're very proud of their maturity and positive attitude.

Safety measures and face coverings

We review our safety procedures regularly and make adjustments as required. After half-term *we will be encouraging our senior students (those in Years 10-13) and members of staff to wear a face covering when moving between lessons, particularly in areas where social distancing is difficult.* Students in other year groups may wear a face covering if they wish. Please speak to your son/daughter about how to handle and remove face coverings in a safe manner. Our risk assessment is a frequently revised working document. You can view it [here](#).

Staffing changes

Unfortunately, we had to say goodbye to Mrs Roe, our Sixth Form administrator earlier this term. Although she had only been working with us for a short time, Mrs Roe had become a very important member of our team, providing expert advice, guidance and support for our Sixth Form students. Mrs Roe has moved back into the legal profession and we wish her every success in her new career.

We welcome the following new members of staff to the Dane Court family:

- Mrs Etheridge: Sixth Form Administrator
- Mr Lehane: Cover Supervisor
- Miss Purdy: Teaching Assistant
- Miss Whelan: Teaching Assistant

Sixth Form update

Our Year 13 students have been working hard on their university applications this term. You may be aware that the UCAS deadline for the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge, as well as for medicine, veterinary and dentistry applications, falls in the middle of October. Once again, we have a large number of excellent candidates and we're crossing our fingers for some exciting news over the coming months.

Learning outside of lessons

Congratulations to our Year 13 Duke of Edinburgh Silver Award candidates who, earlier this month, braved some appalling weather to complete their expedition - a great achievement in these challenging circumstances. Additionally, our Year 13 Geographers enjoyed a successful trip to Juniper Hall to complete the fieldwork for their Internal Assessment.

I sincerely hope that we'll be able to resume our usual rich and varied programme of extra-curricular activities before too long.

Wishing you a restful holiday – take care.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Jones', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Mr M Jones
Headteacher