



10 July 2020

Dear Parent

Year 10 Summer Term End of Year Letter

As this school year draws to an end, I would like to look back and reflect on the year and look forward to future plans.

The Start of Year 10

In September we started the year with great vigour as students were excited about their new GCSE courses. In some subjects students have taken external exams and in other subjects students had started controlled assessments or other forms of coursework assessments. We had a number of fantastic extracurricular experiences such as the rewards trip to the Ski Centre at Swadlincote, Silver Duke of Edinburgh practice expedition in Derbyshire, and the School performance of Grease. Teachers were starting to prepare students for trial exams, and we had a revision evening planned for parents and students.

The End of the Spring Term

It was around this time that everything changed, and we all had to adapt to a new way of learning. Lessons in school became remote learning, and from tutor time became a weekly welfare check. I am immensely proud of the way that Year 10 have adapted to remote learning and the new challenges this has brought up. The word unprecedented has been used a lot to describe the situation and it truly reflects that none of us have ever experienced anything like this before. The initial effects were felt hardest by Year 11 students who had their exams cancelled and their final school year cut short. Now the effects are being felt by all year groups with concerns about how long students have been remotely learning and away from their regular lessons. Year 10 have maintained the highest submission rate for work completed out of all the Year Groups at Lees Brook and you should be proud of this achievement.

The Current Situation

It has been fantastic to see so many Year 10 students back in school for face to face time in English, Maths, and Science. It was lovely for me, as head of year, to be able to see Year 10 back in classrooms. At the moment students are completing a week of assessments which will be used to gauge progress throughout the year and during the period of remote learning. We do not envisage there being any immediate changes made to groups as a result of these assessments as we realise that students have had different reactions to remote learning, and this may have affected their progress. After the assessment week there will be two weeks of reflection and feedback, looking at ways of moving forwards. At the end of the summer holidays all of the work set on Class Charts will disappear as groups change from Year 10 to Year 11.

Looking Forwards

We are looking forward to all students starting back to school in September. There will be changes in the way that the school operates to keep students and staff safe. As new announcements are being made by

the Government the school is reacting and adapting plans so we can function as smoothly as possible. As new information becomes available, we will keep you informed.

Other Changes

Unfortunately we had to cancel work experience as many placements were not available and it would not have been safe for learners to be going out on placement during a period where only essential travel was allowed. We have given out links to information concerning careers and have created a Twitter account with a focus on careers, further education, and the world of work. (LBCareersandFE)

As you are already aware Miss Wibberley has moved to another job and so there will be a change in the form tutor team for year 10. 10WBJ will become 11GOM with Mr Goodman and Mrs Cherry as joint form tutors. I would like to thank Mrs Gregory for taking on the form tutor role for 10WBJ during the period of remote learning.

Year 11 Exams

We do not know what changes the exam boards may make to assessments at the end of Year 11. There are many rumours and discussions taking place with the Government concerning the consideration that may be taken for the time that year 10 have not been in regular school. We will keep you informed of any progress on assessments but at the moment we envisage students sitting exams in all subjects at the end of year 11.

I would like to end by thanking you for your support during remote learning and hope that we are able to move to more stable times in the future.

Yours sincerely



Alistair Dunn
Head of Year 10