

20 July 2020

Dear Parent

### **Year 7 Summer Term End of Year Letter**

Firstly, I hope you and your family are safe and well. As the academic year comes to an end it is a good time to look back at the year and recognise the many successes achieved by Year 7 students. Firstly, please thank your youngster for all their hard work and effort throughout their first year at Lees Brook, and I would also like to thank you for motivating them to do their best in what has been a truly unique set of circumstances. I am honoured to be your youngster's Head of Year and am very proud of how they have coped with the challenging times we have faced in recent months. Not only have I seen youngsters become independent learners through the remote learning program, but I have been blown away by the kind gestures, effort and commitment I have seen, with many in our Year 7 group going above and beyond what would be expected in the community. I have certainly missed the face to face interaction of normal school life and look forward to welcoming everyone back in the new academic year, ready to start their Year 8 journey.

#### **School Changes**

School will be a different place on your youngster's return in September. It is important for them to understand this and we will, of course, do our best to prepare your youngster as best as we can. More details on the final arrangements will be with you in due course.

There are some staffing changes when your youngster returns. As some of you are aware, I will be starting my maternity leave in September and I am very pleased to announce that Mr. Hill will be taking over as Head of Year 8 until my return. He is very much looking forward to seeing your youngster develop and working with you to fulfil their potential. He will be in contact at the start of the academic year with more information and to introduce himself in more detail. Your youngster's Learning Behaviour Manager will be Mrs. Moore who has worked at Lees Brook for many years and is very experienced at supporting students; we welcome her to the team and look forward to working closely with her.

I am sure you would agree that form tutors have been a key part of your youngster's development over the academic year. They have really enjoyed getting to know you and watching your youngster grow and so it is with a heavy heart that we have to say goodbye to two of our form tutors who will be leaving at the end of the summer term: Miss Howard and Miss Murray. Both members of staff have been a great support for youngsters in their first year here at Lees Brook and we wish them the very best for the future. I am very pleased to announce that we have Miss Oldfield and Mrs. Hibbert who will be taking over 8MUE and Mrs. Brookes who will be taking over 8HWE. They will be in touch in the new academic year to introduce themselves and will be there to support your youngster during the next academic year and beyond.

#### **Face to Face Meetings**

Many youngsters have been into school recently to meet with their form tutor. It is evident that form tutors have built great relationships with individuals as well as families over the telephone in recent weeks, but I know that they have really valued the opportunity to see youngsters in person to discuss their recent experience and to address any concerns that they might have.

### **Achievements**

Although we have been unable to celebrate as many achievements by youngsters in recent weeks, we should not forget the earlier successes that have been achieved this academic year. Although the list is not exhaustive, we had the success of the summer challenge booklets, reward point winners, headteacher breakfasts, a trip to the Swadlincote Ski Centre and more recently certificates for those youngsters who have continually worked hard in submitting their work set through the remote learning program. The winners of the cross-curricular project currently being completed will be announced at the start of the next academic year.

Finally, I would ask you please encourage your youngster to stay active and healthy over the summer break, so they are in the best possible frame of mind to return. We are really looking forward to seeing everyone back in school in September and wish you all a safe and happy summer break.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "G. Kendall".

Miss G Kendall  
Head of Year 7