

EDF/jr  
July 2023

Dear Parent/Guardian

## **Year 10 – End of Year Letter**

As always, the year has flown by and I can't really believe that we are now at the end of Year 10 and beginning the final stages of your children's time at Wildern. As we head into the last full year, I would like to take the opportunity to reflect on the highlights from this year.

The Prefect process is always one of the highlights for a Year Leader and thankfully this year was no different. The calibre of the applicants to become Head Boy/Girl was amazing and so it was an incredibly difficult decision to make. All the students presented their ideas with real confidence and were a credit to themselves and you. We have appointed the team who have already taken on their roles and demonstrated why they were chosen; I have every confidence that these students will be amazing, having a lasting impact on the school as a whole.

The students have also had a taste of Year 11 life in various forms. Those who were fortunate enough to secure work experience benefited immensely from being in the workplace and I hope it has given students the impetus to seek out further employment opportunities. The college taster days were a huge success, with students learning what life will be like in Further Education. Hopefully it has also helped them to decide where they wish to study once they have finished Wildern.

There have been a multitude of trips that have taken place this term, to support learning, where students have been great ambassadors of Wildern. This together with the work that our Sport Studies students carried out with our feeder schools has been positively received within the local community. The Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme has been a great success with everyone passing their expedition section. Well done and long may the successes and positivity continue.

The final set of WAD data once again demonstrated how hard the majority of Year 10 have been working. Feedback is invaluable in identifying where students need to focus so that we can continue to adapt the specific support programme that began in the summer term, allowing it to evolve during the autumn term. This will enable us to ensure that the students are given the best support available in preparation for their final examinations and are able to thrive.

As we start to think about September, I thought it was important to share a few reminders as students will really need to hit the ground running for their last two and a half terms.

- High and sustained attendance will be a crucial factor in GCSE success, especially in the faster paced environment of Year 11. We of course understand that students may have illness along the way, however, all students should strive to be in when they can. There will be no authorised holidays in Year 11.

- The shops will soon be full of 'Back to School' equipment and clothes. Please support us and your child by making sure that they begin the term fully equipped with the items that they need to study effectively.
- As a reminder, please make sure that your child has the basic school equipment;
  - Having a sensible bag and pen, pencil, ruler and calculator.
  - Wearing correct school uniform – please refer to the information that has been sent out regarding this.
  - Full details of school uniform including PE kit and acceptable shoe styles, can be found on the school website.
  - Only the Wildern school jumper and a coat are permitted in school so students are asked not to bring in non Wildern and/or hooded jumpers.

Last, but by no means least, tutors play a pivotal role in the successes of each of our students; they are the ones who help set them up for the day, offering a smile and unwavering support no matter what. It is down to the hard work and diligence of an incredibly tight team of tutors that the year group maintains such high standards and in my opinion make them the best year group. I would like to thank all of our tutors for their support this year and remind you that they are always available should you have issues about your son or daughter you wish to discuss.

With this in mind, we have several changes to the team, some that have begun already and others that begin in September. Sadly we have already said goodbye to Miss Gray, so we now say good luck to Miss Ahmed who is moving to year 7 as a tutor and Mrs Dare who will become the year 7 ADOPA. My thanks and good wishes to you all in what has been a real year to remember.

Finally, I would like to wish you all an enjoyable, relaxing and safe summer holiday. I look forward to our students returning initially for our 'Meeting Me' sessions with their tutor before resuming school on Thursday 7 September 2023. With only 2 full academic terms left before their GCSE exams, I hope that all students return with renewed vigour and the desire to achieve in all areas of school life.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours faithfully

Mrs E Fearon  
Director of Progress and Achievement – Year 10