



25th August 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Re: 'World Class Students make World Class Schools' (July 2020)

As the curtain draws to a close on this academic year, we of course reflect on both the successes achieved and the lessons learned from our experiences during what has to be the most unusual school year in a generation.

The precious partnership between staff, students and families that makes our school community so special has risen to the challenges presented by COVID-19. Some of us have had to re-invent how we teach or do our job, embracing technologies that were initially unfamiliar and indeed perhaps alien to us at the start. We have all examined multiple alternative ways to engage young people so that, without the usual support mechanisms of a school-based setting, they still continue to grow and learn. Great strides forwards have been made in our collaborations with each other as we meet regularly, learning how to work more effectively and efficiently.

The end of year awards ceremony held virtually this week recognised the tremendous efforts of our young people during this year. Last week our school was awarded 'International Accrediting World Class School 2020' status, one of only four schools nationally who have the licence to visit and accredit schools in other countries as World Class. It has been humbling to end the year seeing the incredible resilience, commitment and perseverance our students have shown during the school closure.

So, as we think about our young people's achievements, it is fitting that we give back to them and provide the resources that they need so that they can continue to demonstrate these World Class abilities. By September, the school will have two new state of the art ICT suites; a bigger outdoor gym; more toilets on site; a safer main school entrance area; an outdoor 'Tuck Inn'; a sixth form block that is twice its current size and a fully equipped on site Café for Sixth Form students. We are thrilled that we are in a position to provide such significant investments as we believe this will support students transitioning back into school full time. It will remind them that we are here to support them so they can be the best version of themselves as 'World Class students make World Class Schools'.

I wish your children a restful holiday and hope you also manage to get some downtime with family and friends as well. Thank you for the tremendous efforts you have put in to supporting them in their home learning over the past 117 days since lock down started!

Yours faithfully,

Mr Chris Bishop
Headteacher