

12th February 2021

Dear Parent /Carer

Firstly, I would like to express how proud I am of all Year 7 students this term. They have worked incredibly hard to overcome the difficult challenges presented to them and have continued to impress me with their resilience, flexibility and dedication to their learning throughout this period of remote learning.

Throughout the term we have focused on the wellbeing of our students, which has coincided with Children's Mental Health Awareness Week, as well as encouraging continued engagement with one another through a range of tutor group activities that aim to ensure they stay connected to their peers, friends, their form group and their tutor. During tutor time, Year 7 Tutors have been sharing resources with students to support them at home as well as encouraging them to get involved in class wide discussions on a range of topics, from their favourite pancake toppings to the best ways to unwind after a busy day of remote learning. On Tuesday 9th February we rose awareness around internet safety for Internet Safety Day. Students were able to watch a short video and consider how they engage with social media and the safety precautions they should be taking.

I firmly believe that reading is not only fundamental in establishing a strong foundation for student's education but also key in encouraging students to unwind and support their own mental well-being. To promote this tutors encourage students to promote their current reading material, contributing to weekly class discussions about their chosen literature and continuing to promote the many advantages of continuing reading during this time. Furthermore Miss Skirrow, a member of the year 7 tutor team, hosts a popular Podcast titled "Read the Write Way" alongside Miss Lucas where they discuss a wide range of literature and recommend books students to engage with.

It is well documented that the combination of experiences both within and outside the classroom provide a positive and enriching school experience for young people. To enrich your daughter's remote learning experience many subjects will be hosting informal competitions to encourage students to become involved in the wider school community, this includes my recently announced "Pancake Art" competition, which I have posted to your daughter's tutor group as well as attached to this letter. I am incredibly excited to see the creativity of the entries, which will be shared in my welcome back assembly in the new term!

I would like to finish by saying thank you to you as parents and carers. Your support at home supporting remote learning is extremely valuable and we appreciate everything you are doing to support your daughter during this time. If you would like to know more about mental health awareness and how you can support your daughter please refer to the attached Wellbeing Postcard which offers prompts to support Children's Mental Health Week and links to useful websites and resources.

Yours sincerely



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Raising Standards Leader for 7



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