

September 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

At this time of year, we would normally be inviting you to attend our Year 7 Settling In Parents Evening to discuss your child's transition into Year 7, however due to unprecedented circumstances we will be unable to host this evening.

From Monday 5 October you will receive a telephone call from either, your child's Form Tutor, Mr Daley/Ms McDermott (Heads of Year 7) or SEN support, this call will be to discuss your child's reconnection into school life and their transition from Year 6 into John Willmott School. Please let us know if your telephone number has recently changed.

We understand that this has been a very difficult time and we would like to have this opportunity to speak with you about how your child has settled back into school, particularly their attitude towards their learning both in class and at home. This will be an extremely beneficial conversation for us all to support your child moving forward and address any concerns.

The Year 7 team would like to thank you for all of your ongoing support and communication during this very unusual transition from Year 6 to Year 7. We are acutely aware that your children missed out on milestones and events in their final year of primary school and we are committed to ensuring that Year 7 is a time that they feel nurtured and cared for.

Students have all been given a Knowledge Organiser and a Home Learning and Revision book which they should be using every night in order to self-quiz, recall and retrieve essential knowledge. There is a video on our YouTube channel which demonstrates the most effective ways to do this. Students should also have their login details for Hegarty Maths.

In addition, students are following a structured form time programme which includes time to reflect on the book we have given each student: 'You Are Awesome' by Matthew Syed, we do hope they enjoyed their personalised video message from the author himself! In their first week with us students were also shown how to access Career Advice, discussed Unicef's Rights Respecting Schools Award (we are working towards Silver!) and also had an introduction to their PSHE programme of study.

Students have also all been allocated their House which they will remain in! As we are currently unable to run after school or lunchtime clubs we have dedicated Wednesday afternoons to enrichment activities which form part of our broad and balanced curriculum. These 2 hour sessions are designed by our Heads of House and are specifically created to promote opportunities to experience something new and exciting! Our Heads of House will also be launching House Ambassador applications this half term and we do hope as many Year 7s as possible get involved. Year 7 have already been incredible in the sheer amount of House Points they have received from staff which is reflective of their enthusiasm and commitment to excellence. Their Records of Achievement are getting full!

Year 7 have also started our 'LORIC' programme of study, a lesson every two weeks focused on: Leadership; Organisation; Resilience; Initiative and Communication. These lessons develop students' awareness of these traits which we promote throughout every aspect of school life in order for them to be successful at John Willmott School and beyond.

The Year group have settled in very well and have developed some incredibly positive relationships with one another and with staff. They are enthusiastic and supportive and willing to embrace this new challenge and we are delighted to be able to share this with them.

Yours faithfully

Mrs L Norton
Assistant Headteacher
Assessment & Curriculum

Mrs L Lockley
Assistant Headteacher
Teaching & Learning

The Year 7 Team



Mr Daley | Ms McDermott | Mrs Lockley