



Dear Families,

I would like to express my sincere gratitude for your support this term. Despite the many four and three day weeks, Year 10 students have made numerous achievements and progress in their lessons every day. The vast majority have been a credit to each other, the school, and the community. Please join me in congratulating the continued involvement of students in the Duke Of Edinburgh Bronze award. This is a source of pride for our school, and we appreciate the effort and time spent by the DofE team to organise the expeditions and the evenings and weekends spent volunteering. Please remind your child to thank the staff involved and to congratulate them on the grit and determination they have shown in some challenging weather conditions.

The next big step for Year 10 students is their transition to Year 11. Next term, as Year 11 students complete their GCSE exams, Year 10 students become the oldest students in the lower school. They will be role models for the younger students in terms of their conduct, appearance and approach to learning. I am sure that they will take on this position with confidence and maturity. Preparation for their own GCSE exams in 2024 continues of course and the students are expected to be working just as hard all the way to the end of the term. Please be aware that they typically have two sets of trial examinations in Year 11, usually in November and February, although these dates have not been confirmed yet. If you need any information about the calendar for next term, please visit our [website](#).

I would also like to share with you a quick update on uniform. As temperatures increase, many students will want to wear shorts, especially if they are being active at break/lunchtime. [Tailored shorts](#) are permitted but not sports shorts or track suit shorts. Another issue is that some students have made decisions not to wear their school jumper and instead wear a sports/jogging jacket. This kind of [style](#). These are not permitted, and will be confiscated.

I am aware that many school emails are informational and not always positive. We are working on improving this balance to celebrate success more often. With this in mind, I would appreciate it if you could email me with any positives that you observe from your perspectives, whether it is related to the whole school, particular subjects, staff, or students.

I hope that you all have a positive half-term, and I look forward to seeing Year 10 in their final term before Year 11.

Kind regards,



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