



Thursday 7th May 2020

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

To begin with, I hope that you are all fit and well. Next, I would like to make a series of thanks:

- Thanks to all of you for your hard work and resilience. Despite the difficult circumstances some really good things are happening
- Thanks for all the kind comments that we have received in support of what we are doing
- Thanks also for the constructive comments and feedback from parents and students that are helping us improve our online curriculum and care offer on a daily basis.

With regards to the last point, just after Easter we surveyed a random group of students and parents and I attach some of the headlines from the survey and thanks to those people who completed it. There are some real positives to take from it. But there are also some timely reminders to us as professionals as to how we can improve things and I can assure we will be taking these into account as we move forward.

Last year when they announced that the Bank Holiday Monday in May was moving to the Friday for VE Day, I think it caught us all by surprise. Little did we know then that VE Day Celebrations would be taking place under lockdown. Such is life! However, the fact that we are in lockdown doesn't mean that we can't mark this day in a fitting, if different way. Tracy Shorrocks, Head of History, has prepared a VE Day video which I recommend you watch if you get a moment. The link is:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BNVJ_vHQHA

As I write this, I am receiving conflicting information as to whether today is the day we will hear about "lockdown" or whether the detail will come on Sunday. Irrespective of when we hear, Monday will rightly see a flurry of activity across the country as people respond to whatever is said and I will be writing to you as soon as I have some clarity about what our next steps will be.

Finally, whatever your plans for VE Day are, enjoy a break from online learning, look after yourselves and stay safe.

Regards

Tim Long



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