



1st April 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

Happy Easter!

To start with, I hope you are fit and well. Time is certainly flying by and it's hard to believe that Easter will be upon us tomorrow. But there is a definite sense that things are beginning to move and it feels like things are also moving in the right direction.

Currently Y11 are sitting assessments to support the awarding of their GCSEs grades now there are no summer exams. As ever, they have applied themselves extremely well and we are confident that we have robust systems and processes in place to ensure that they are treated as fairly as possible this summer in terms of awarding their GCSE grades.

Meanwhile our after-school enrichment programme has, in some cases literally, kicked off with strong numbers of students wanting to get involved in a variety of team and group activities which has been a joy to see. I am working on both the timetable and the budget for this coming September whilst we are also interviewing colleagues for September teaching positions. Mrs Hatton will be writing out after Easter to all our prospective parents who will join us in Year 7 in September. So, despite the shadow still cast by Covid, I feel the clouds are definitely starting to clear.

As you know we publish the Bridge each term, our on-line newsletter where we celebrate the achievements of our students. I always get the privilege of writing the front page. Under the headline "Lockdown Highlights" I reference, as one of my personal highlights, how our students have coped. As I say:

"Some years ago, some people- mistakenly in my opinion, began a narrative around what was lazily called the 'snowflake generation'. If this was ever appropriate, nothing could be less appropriate now for the generation of students we have at Bridgewater. Our students have shown that when it matters most they can dig deep, carry on and in many cases, thrive. It has been a privilege to work with them.

If you want to read more please see the attached [link](#) .Meantime, I hope you get a relaxing Easter and enjoy the lifting of some of the restrictions we have faced since January.

Regards,

Tim Long, Principal

