

December 2020

Dear Year 7 and 8 parents / carers,

As we approach the end of term, I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all on behalf of the staff at the academy for your support in what has been a challenging, yet very rewarding and enjoyable term.

Students have embraced our values and “worked hard” in our new way of working, making fantastic progress in their academic studies. It has also been fantastic to see our students living our other values of “be kind” and “choose wisely” by getting involved in numerous events and activities such as Armistice, Children in Need, switch off fortnight, road safety week as well as odd socks day for anti-bullying week. The standard of entries for our design a face mask competition was also phenomenal!

I have been particularly proud of how students have embraced our classroom to care homes project recently. Students have demonstrated compassion, empathy and kindness in writing stories about themselves that will be shared with care homes in our local community over the festive period. We hope this gesture brings a smile to the faces of those who may have struggled and felt isolated during lockdown.

We are currently in the process of arranging Christmas lunch, the sixth form pantomime and an end of term surprise for students. Details will be confirmed in due course! A reminder that term ends at **1:30pm on Friday 18th December**. Buses have been arranged to arrive at this earlier finish time. Should you wish for your child to remain in school until the usual finish time please contact the relevant year team (year7office@deferrers.com or year8office@deferrers.com). Students return after the Christmas break on **Wednesday 6th January 2021** at the usual time (8:55am for Year 7 and 9:15am for Year 8).

Academic summaries for the autumn term will be distributed via the sims parent app on Friday 8th January. Please email office@deferrers.com if you still need your login details to access the app.

Finally, advance warning for parents and carers that our Year 8 parents evening is scheduled for Thursday 21st January (3:30 - 6:30pm). Under the current climate it is likely that the event will take place virtually, but details of how appointments can be booked will be confirmed in the new year.

I wish you all a safe, peaceful and relaxing break over the festive season.

Yours faithfully

Mr D Lovell
Vice Principal – Head of Dove Campus