Dear Families

I hope that this letter finds you well and that you are all safe and coping as best you can with the current pandemic we all find ourselves in. In this most turbulent of times, I am delighted to say that in Year 8 here at Longdendale there has been much to celebrate in this opening half term of 2020/21.

Learners in Year 8 have started this year as they mean to go on; showing respect and maturity in relation to the current coronavirus restrictions. The Year 8 learners are always well presented around school, adhering to the one way system, remaining in their Year 8 bubble and wearing face masks in communal areas. I know how difficult change can be, especially after such a prolonged period of time away from the school, but Year 8 have taken it all in their stride, showing professionalism, maturity and respect every single day.

Even this early in the year, we have had a number of learners in Year 8 already being recognised for their fantastic commitment to school by receiving Learning Leader awards. Arona F, James E, Charlie O and Will F have been nominated by Mr Paradiuk for their creativity and integrity in PE for devising their own football drills and delivering them to the rest of their class. Angel S has received one for outstanding maths homework, Lucy P for excellent Spanish work, and Caitlin G for an overall superb attitude to learning. Two learners have even earned themselves Head Teacher awards, which is brilliant so early in the year. Jamie B has been recognised by Miss Hamilton for excellent graphics and art titles and Eden W has been awarded for her prize-winning writing during lockdown.

This first half term of the year has also seen nominations for this year’s School Council take place. Learners interested in contributing to whole school change wrote their own manifestos and presented them to their peers, who then had the opportunity to vote for the learners they wanted to represent them. Miss Maiolani will be announcing the winners of those votes in the very near future!

I’d like to take this opportunity to recognise the hard work of the Year 8 tutor team. They work tirelessly every single day to assist every learner in Year 8, both academically and pastorally, ensuring that they have a positive experience with us here at Longdendale. I’d also like to say a massive thank you to you also, your continued support is much appreciated and it has been key in ensuring a smooth transition back to school in these strangest of times.

As always, please do not hesitate to get in touch if you have any queries or if there is any way in which we can best assist you and your family.

Take care.

Yours faithfully



Mr Baxter-Smallwood

Year 8 Learning Leader