



28<sup>th</sup> May 2021

Dear Parents,

## End of Half Term Messages

As this half term draws to a close and we are eagerly anticipating a restful break filled with family, friends and sun, we would like to share some of the highlights of the last half-term.

### Year 11 Leaving

We are so proud of our Year 11 students, the way they have approached this year, with all its challenges. The level of maturity and positive work ethic they have displayed has been a credit to us all and signals that they are indeed ready to take on the next stage of their lives, be that at a college or sixth form, on an apprenticeship or in training. The support and friendship they have shown one another is to be commended and demonstrates the caring ethos of our students and staff at Tarleton Academy. While our Year 11 students have celebrated their last day in school with a Year 11 photo to mark this moment in their lives, a social gathering with a visit from an ice cream van and a tearful farewell assembly reflecting on their last five years with us; we hope to see many of them again at our valedictory dinner on Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> July, here's hoping it goes ahead. We would like to thank them for all of their contributions to our school community, but especially for the way they have led others and been role models to our younger students. We wish the Class of 2021 every success in the future.

### Covid Guidelines

This half term has been a busy one with some of the COVID restrictions being eased and in line with Government guidance. Our risk assessments we have been able to adapt some of our safety measures, enabling us to begin enjoy practical learning again and start to offer our extra-curricular enrichment programme once more. We hope you have received the letter from the Local Authority which confirms the need for masks in lessons up to 21<sup>st</sup> June and we look forward to reviewing our procedures again at this next milestone.

### Wider Opening of School Life

It has been a joy to see so many of our students taking part in active lunch and as the sun finally arrived this week, we have been able to open up the school field at lunchtime, further enhancing our students' daily experience.

Our Year 7 and 8 football teams represented Tarleton impeccably at the West Lancashire League Tournaments, displaying competitive team spirit, determination and resilience. Both teams narrowly missed out on the Gold, coming in second and were a credit to Tarleton Academy.

Practical learning has been at the heart of this terms experience, with science experiments, culinary treats, dramatic monologues, artistic creations and musical ensembles taking place. We have put a small selection of some photos on to our website which you can view using the link below.

<https://www.tarletonacademy.org/news/2021-05-26-celebrating-students-return-to-school>

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## Looking Ahead

Our return on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June signals the start of a busy and exciting final half term of the year, with the prospect of further adaption to our COVID safety measures and a return to our vertical tutoring system. Further details about calendared events for our final half term will be sent to you at the start of next half-term.

We also look forward to welcoming our newest cohort of students who will join the Tarleton family as Year 7's in September as part of their transition programme, which will provide the perfect opportunity to develop the skills of our soon to be appointed Year 10 leaders who will actively facilitate these events.

Our Year 11 students are not the only ones to be off to pastures new. After 16 years at Tarleton, we would like to congratulate Mrs Smallwood, our Science Technician, who is starting a new career in town planning. We wish her every success.

It just remains for me to wish you and your family a happy half term, to thank you for your warm welcome in my first half term here at Tarleton and to look forward to seeing all our students back on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> June at 8.45am.

Yours sincerely,

*Mrs V. Hill*

Headteacher