



19th July 2021

End of Term Letter

Dear Parents,

If someone had said 18 months ago that our school and indeed our world would be brought to a standstill by a microscopic virus, we would never have believed them, Throughout this year we have seen unprecedented acts of kindness and compassion, friendship and support; both in our school and the wider community. While it is clear our students have faced an incredibly difficult 12 months in so many ways, we are exceptionally proud of the way they have met those challenges and of the young people they are maturing into.

The final week of this academic year has been a busy one which has seen us join together as a school and work in teams to meet a number of creative, sporting and academic challenges, reflect upon the challenges we have faced, the progress we have made and look ahead to what next year will bring. Students have completed their own reflection within tutor time, whilst we have done likewise from a staff perspective.

Thank you to our staff

Whilst the past 12 months have been hard for our students, the same has to be said with regard to staff. Returning as a full school community in September was something we very much enjoyed, although the journey has not been quite as smooth as any of us would have liked. Remote learning; isolating students and staff; continual uncertainty about exams and curriculum content; planning for remote learning and in-class teaching; Teacher Assessed Grades for GCSEs; testing in school; health and safety protocols and risk assessments; the list of additional challenges has been endless.

That said, I feel blessed to have joined such an amazing community of staff and students and I am exceptionally proud to lead such a fantastic team of staff. Though repeatedly stretched to their limit with additional workload and last minute changes, they have responded to everything directed their way, whilst also having their own personal and home situations to consider. It comes as no surprise that they have done and provided the best for your son/ daughter day in, day out. The team we have at Tarleton really are special and all of their hard work is greatly appreciated by myself, our SLT and the Executive Team.

Staffing Update

The end of a school year is often a time when we say goodbye to some of our staff. This year, we are saying a big thank you and best wishes for the future to Mr McLardy (SLT), Mr Taylor (HPL & English), Mrs Barlow (English), Mrs Walker (RE) and Mr Nicholson (History). Whether they have been with us for one year or sixteen, they have all been fantastic members of staff, brought their subjects to life and inspired many students within their subject areas to have enquiring minds, ask questions and develop positive learning attributes. They have made a big difference to our school community and will be missed. Our school would not run as smoothly as it does, without the excellent work we are provided with on a daily basis, from our Support Team. Mrs Rooney is taking up the position of Head of HR in our Trust, Mrs Donald will now be supporting the Trust team with her admin. Skills and Mrs Smallwood has swapped her Science lab. coat to pursue a career in town planning.

Outstanding education at the heart of the community

We have welcomed back Mrs Higham following her maternity leave as Operations Manager and wish Mrs Lythgoe all the very best on her maternity leave.

Mr Cunniffe has taken up the permanent position of Head of School at Northbrook Primary School where he has already made a positive impact and transitioned from secondary aged students to primary pupils with ease. We wish him all the very best in his new adventure and know he will stay in touch within our Endeavour Learning Family.

In September we welcome the following teaching staff to join our team; Mr Linch and Miss Ashton (History), Miss Thompson (Assistant Head of Maths), Mrs Holmes-Shaw and Miss Sykes (English), Miss Morris (MFL) and Mr Powell (Science/Computer Science).

Student Leadership

Earlier this term we invited our year 10 students to apply for positions of leadership within our student team. Mrs Berry, Mrs Leathard and the House Progress Leaders had a tough job to make the final selections as the quality of application was so high, but following final interviews I have pleasure in announcing our head students for 2021/22 are:

School Captains –	Charlotte Gibson and Georgia Brockbank
Vice School Captains –	Niamh Lashmar and Joel Major
House Captains –	Louise Higson and Sadie Murray (Daley) Lucy Brown and Lydia Lund (Ennis) Oliver Charleston, Ruby Horner and Lily-Jo Warren (Farah) Max Gilmore and Paige Halton (Wiggins)
Senior prefects –	Lucy Abram, Olivia Watkins, Rhys Fearnley, Evie Roberts and Isabelle Fowler.

Congratulations to all our student leaders, especially the senior team who will play a key role in the future development of our school and lead the subject prefects and year 10 prefects.

Summer school

We were very excited to be able to welcome our year 6 new pupils to Tarleton Academy over the last 3 weeks of term for COVID compliant, bubbled tours. It was lovely to see our new Year 7 students in person and we hope to welcome many more of them to our summer school on Monday 9th to Friday 13th August.

GCSE results day

The date for this year has been brought forward to **Thursday, 12th August** when we will be welcoming our students to receive their results and have a follow-up careers meeting, if needed. Individual letters with appointment times for the morning have been sent out. Should you have any further questions, please contact Mrs Miller on n.miller@tarletonacademy.org

Review days

We are looking forward to holding our Progress Review day on **Monday 6th September**. As usual, these will be scheduled appointments throughout the day. However, with current COVID guidelines, we are also planning on a testing programme on this day. More details and individual appointment times will be sent to you over the summer.

Important dates

Looking ahead to new academic year, please make a note of some key dates for your diary in our Autumn term:

- **Monday 6th September** Year 7 and 11 in school 8:45am; year 8, 9 & 10 Review Day appointments
- **Tuesday 7th September** All years in school normal day 8:45am (Yr 7, 9 & 11 school photographs)
- **Tuesday 14th September** Year 7 & 8 Information Evening
- **Thursday 16th September** Year 9 Information Evening
- **Thursday 23rd September** Year 10 & 11 Information Evening
- **Friday 24th September** MacMillian Coffee Morning
- **Thursday 30th September** Open Evening
- **Thursday 21st October** Year 7 Tutor Evening
- **Friday 22nd October** School closed INSET day

Please note an additional holiday is to be added this year on **Friday 26th November** for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee celebrations, which will mean the school will be closed on this date.

I would like to thank you for your continued support and well wishes and I would like to wish you all an enjoyable, sun-filled and relaxing summer holiday and leave you with this Irish Blessing;

May the road rise up to meet you; may the wind always be at your back.

May the sun shine warm on your face; and the rains fall soft upon your fields.

And until we meet again; may God hold you in the palm of his hand.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs V Hill

Mrs V Hill

Headteacher