

Monday 23rd November 2020



It has been a week at school where students are working hard in Year 11 to prepare for their Mock Examinations next week and I am pleased to say the vast majority of students are working well towards these. It is very difficult in these times for students to know what the rest of the academic year holds for them but following the recent developments around vaccines, I am more hopeful than ever that an exams season of some sort will happen in the summer.

We have talked to students about other possibilities but all possibilities come down to the same basic point, “do your best in all that you do and then whatever form assessments may take you will do well”. This is the one thing students and staff can control and so this is where we are and will continue to focus our efforts.

Last week would have been our Commemorative Assembly where we welcome back last year’s Year 11 students to award prizes and exam certificates. It is a great shame that we cannot have them back into school as it is always lovely to see the students and hear what they are up to and how they are getting on. I am hopeful that these students will let us know by other means as we really do like to know how they are doing once they have left us.

We have produced a video, which is on our website for parents and students of the class of 2020, but please feel free to have a look and celebrate their achievements with us. They were (and still are) a fantastic group of young people and I am sure they will all go on to great things.

We are also working on preparing our end of term celebrations; we are still aiming to have a Christmas Carol concert, virtually, as well as a Virtual “Debenham’s Got Talent” for the students in school. In this time of huge change we are very keen to keep those traditional and important parts of our school calendar.

It wouldn’t be my weekly message without talking about Covid, sadly this epidemic is going on far longer than any of us may have thought back in February but it is still as important, if not more so, that we all do our part to reduce the spread of this virus. Our expectations of students in school are still as high as ever and I would ask that parents re-iterate this message that we are doing all that we are to protect all members of our school community and wider and as limiting as these measures are they are for the good of all.

Best Wishes
Simon Martin