Friday 1st October 2021

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are all well and I hope that your daughters have settled back into school now. It was really lovely to meet so many of our year 7 parents on Monday for our ‘This is my School’ evening and I know that your daughters enjoyed showing you around.

**Mobile Phones**

From Monday 4th October, we will be returning to our pre-pandemic procedures regarding mobile phones so I wanted to outline what this means for parents and students. Any students who choose to bring a mobile phone into school must hand them in to the hatch at the front office for safekeeping at 8.30a.m. and collect at 3.30p.m. Students will be required to show their ID card in order to collect their phones.

Phones should not be used within school grounds at any time. If a student is found in possession of a phone in school, the phone will be confiscated for 48 hours and parents/carers will be asked to collect the mobile phone.

**iPad for year 7 students**

We would like to clarify our strategy for iPad for Learning in Y7. We are in the process of purchasing and configuring some class sets of iPad which will be available for faculties to book and use in their lessons with our students. We aim for our Y7 students to have access to these after half-term. We would like to extend our appreciation to the many parents and carers who have expressed their support for our wish to ensure all our girls have access to the one-to-one technology equitably. We know the girls will really enjoy using them to enhance their learning.

**Additional Holiday**

You will be aware that the additional Bank Holiday which we have been granted for the Queen’s Platinum Jubilee falls during the May half-term. Schools have therefore been allowed to choose their own additional day and we have opted for **Friday 26th November, 2021** which has now been approved by the LA this week**.** During the darkest month of the year, we think that this will enable staff and students to ‘recharge’, prior to the last few weeks before Christmas.

**Parent Governor Elections**

We have received four nominations for our Parent Governor vacancy, which means that we are holding an election.  Please see the four statements copied below that will also be published on our website.

The election will close on Friday 15th October at noon. Voting slips and instructions for how to cast your ballot will be sent to all parents/carers shortly.



**Parent Information Evenings**

This year, our Parent Information Evenings for 2021/22 will be delivered remotely and will be posted onto the school website, "going live" on 5th October for all year groups. There will be a bespoke presentation for each year group so that you have all of the relevant information you need and can re-watch, should you need to. We hope that these short video presentations prove useful, as an alternative to an in-person event.

**Early Closure for Open Evening and INSET day: 14th and 15th October**

I wanted to remind you that our Open Evening is on Thursday 14th October, followed by an INSET day the following day on Friday 15th October. School will finish at 2.30p.m. on Thursday. Thank you, in advance, for those parents and carers who have granted permission for your daughters to participate in our Open Evening. I know that the girls are very excited at the prospect of welcoming visitors to the school and talking about their experiences.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you for all of your support thus far and to wish you a restful and restorative weekend.

Yours sincerely



Ms H Marriott

Headteacher