

19 May 2022

Dear parents and carers,

I wanted to share with you an absolutely delightful event I attended at our Sevenoaks campus on Tuesday this week. At lunchtime, organised by Mr Lee, those of us eating our lunch in the dining room were treated to musical performances from a number of our wonderfully talented musicians. It was such a privilege to be able to hear them play and sing, and I would like to congratulate each and every one of the young people who participated. I would, however like to make a particular mention of Freya in Year 7, who demonstrated true grit and determination in her performances.

When Freya took to the floor initially, the backing track for her song was in the wrong key, and although she struggled valiantly, the performance was not as she would have liked. Her friends rallied around and supported her. She dug deep, taking to the floor again at the end of the concert when she sang without accompaniment, save for the entire dining room, led by Mr Lee, clapping out the rhythm for her. It was worth the wait as she sang beautifully. I have seldom heard such fulsome applause at the conclusion of a performance. The love and support offered to Freya and all of our performers was tangible, and very Weald. A huge well done to all involved, and we look forward to future lunchtime concerts.

As we head towards half-term, I wanted to offer a reminder of our expectation of student uniform. Please click <u>here</u> for the link to our policy. After half-term form tutors will be checking uniform on a daily basis, and will be in contact with you if there are any issues. Our Friends of Weald uniform shop is open should you either wish to donate, swap or purchase any second-hand uniform, and our uniform suppliers are running selling events at Sevenoaks on 13 July and Tonbridge on 14 July.

With the GCSE exams in full swing and A Levels starting next week, I would like to wish all of our young people taking these examinations all the very best. We know they are ready, the focus and determination has been writ large in the exemplary way they have approached this end of an era. Staff and students all enjoyed the opportunity to meet and sign shirts (with an ice-cream) on the school field and we are excited to meet again with our Year 13 cohort at their leavers event at the end of next month. I would also like to thank the other students who are, always, mindful and considerate of the spaces in the school being used for examination.

Finally, our students in Years 7 to 10 and Year 12 will be completing a PASS (Pupil Attitude to School Survey) in the coming weeks. This is designed to enable the school a greater understanding of our young people so we can plan and deliver appropriate support in the coming academic year. Do please reassure your child (as we will in school) that this is not a test, there are no right or wrong answers and there is no need to prepare for the survey. We will share more information on this with you in due course.

In the meantime, thank you, as always, for your ongoing support.

Yours sincerely,

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