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Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s),

Headteacher Update Summer 2023

As we prepare to break up for the summer term, I wanted to write to thank you all for your support this year.

This term has seen a return of some of our larger events to celebrate our community, and the tenacity, aspirations and the achievements of our pupils.

The House Rewards Event took place on our school field with Zorbing activities for the winning House, and for those pupils in other Houses that had made a significant contribution to our school in their achievements. Thank you to Miss Lindsey for organising this.

Our Chase Terrace Festival this week was a resounding success, despite the weather! Children enjoyed Alpaca's, hair braiding, giant games, inflatables, silent disco, nerf gun wars, concert/music, festival food and ice cream! There were many other activities that were available for pupils who had a truly memorable day. I would like to thank Mrs Tooth, Miss Vivien, and Miss Wilson in particular for their vision and organisation. The whole staff team pulled together for a really exceptional day that was topped off with our very British Summer Showcase in the evening. Again, pupils and staff alike enjoyed having the support of our families (under their umbrella's) during the concert. Thank you to the performing arts staff and our pupils (including some of our past pupils who came along to support and help with the organisation) for their hard work.

Families were invited into school to share our Awards Evening this month, organised by Miss Pickerill and Miss Lindsey, where pupils were recognised for their efforts by their subject staff, and by their Heads of Year. It was a fantastic event with pupils sharing some of their musical talents, as well as receiving awards. Performing in front of your peers is no small undertaking, and this is made all the more significant with parents and carers watching too. The level of performance was exceptional, and I was very proud to be able to introduce the event and present my own awards to recognise a pupil in each year group for their achievements and for demonstrating our school values every day.

In year 7, the award went to James Holmes for working so hard in every aspect of school life and for taking every opportunity to take part in school clubs, performances and clubs. James works hard in every lesson and this is reflected in the high number of House Points that he has been awarded.

In year 8, the Headteacher Award went to Jaime Ballett for her full commitment to pupil leadership in school. Jamie is a member of our pupil leadership team and has also worked hard within our Sports Leadership team. Jaime is generous with her time and skills, leading football clubs, primary team events and presentations to school leaders and governors on school improvement matters. We are very proud of the impact that Jaime has already made at school.

In year 10, Jake Sylvester was the worthy winner of the Headteachers Award. Jake is a pupil who has consistently committed to the performing arts events and has applied himself every day in his lessons. Jake is a very modest and respectful pupil who has earned an exceptionally high number of House Points for his efforts.

You may be thinking I have missed the year 9 winner but I have left this one until last for an important reason. In year 9 we have a truly exceptional young woman who had made a significant impact on many lives with her tenacity and aspiration despite the challenges she has faced over the last year and a half. The winner of the year 9 award was Annabel Remmer. Annabel was diagnosed with osteosarcoma in February 2022, and underwent treatment that included an above knee amputation and months of chemotherapy and immunotherapy.

Annabel has taught me a lot over this last year, and her message about living life as if this is the only shot at it is an important one. Annabel is one of those people who ignores the impossible. She takes every opportunity and focuses on those things she can control – making the most of them always.

I asked Annabel to write her story for you to read and she is ready to share that with you all. She has a social media blog where you can follow her adventures and achievements on Instagram and Twitter. Please take time to share her inspirational story and support her as she continues her journey. I have attached Annabel's story to this letter, and thank her for being brave in sharing this with our community.

Finally, I have attached a flyer from the local authority regarding safety over the break, which I would ask that you share with your young people at home. Please remind them of the importance of staying safe around open water, roads, railways and to ensure that an adult knows where they will be when they go out.

If you, your child or someone in your community needs our support over the summer please contact us on office@chaseterraceacademy.co.uk which is an email that is monitored over the summer break. If you have a safeguarding concern over the summer please use the links on our website to access support.

I would like to wish you all well for the summer break.

Kind Regards

Ms N Mason Headteacher

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