

July 2024

Dear Families,

RE: HEADTEACHER'S END OF YEAR LETTER

As we come to the end of the 2023-2024 academic school year, I would like to take this opportunity to thank our parent/carer community for their unwavering support. We have achieved a great number of things since September, and I am immensely proud of our collective efforts.

Our partnership with the John Taylor MAT has brought even more opportunities for our pupils. The most recent success is our pupils being crowned champions of the 'John Taylor High School Forensic Science Competition', following their success in winning the JTMAT Science Quiz. A real achievement for our scientists! We have also had several subject excellence awards, fostering collaboration among the other schools within the Trust.

This school year has seen a variety of trips go ahead, enriching our pupils' experiences. Highlights include the Year 12 trip to Krakow, the popular ski trip to Serre Chevalier during the Easter break, and the visit to Birmingham Pride's 'Big Community Event' during the May half term. Additionally, our pupils have made several trips to local primary schools, facilitating community links and supporting activities such as animation workshops and sports days. This week, our Year 8 pupils have enjoyed a wonderful time in France and Germany.

We have celebrated numerous sporting highlights, with our Year 10 boys team winning the district league, remaining unbeaten throughout the entire season. Our extra-curricular provision has continued to grow, offering a variety of activities such as macramé club, games club, Warhammer club, and even a First Aid certification course. Our staff are currently planning their extra-curricular offerings for the next academic year, which will be updated on our school website upon the pupils' return in September.

Our Sports Day was a resounding success, showcasing the spirit of our school community as everyone came together to cheer each other on. We are thrilled to share that Brocket has achieved a historic first-time victory in Sports Day! Elk closely secured second place, with Fallow taking third. The staff race was a definite highlight, and I would like to extend my gratitude to all staff members involved in organising and supporting this wonderful event.

The CTA Carnival was a wonderful event for us all. The 'Dodgems' were a particular highlight on the day! The event helped the school to raise money for our school improvement fund, and to support the Pupil Leadership priorities in school and across John Taylor MAT.

We have continued to gather feedback through half termly surveys sent to pupils, parents/carers, and staff. As a result, we have introduced several parent forums throughout the year, with the next one scheduled to take place early in the autumn term, on Thursday 10th October. Based on these surveys, we have also implemented various changes, including the introduction of the 'Terrace Talk' parent bulletin, which aims to keep parents/carers informed about the fantastic happenings in our school. Following pupil feedback, we have increased seating during lunchtimes, improved tutor notices, and upgraded the year 7 courtyard areas. Pupils have also been involved in leading sporting events across the community more widely, and have had access to opportunities across the Trust by collaborating with Pupil Leaders in other schools. Furthermore, our pupils have consistently reported feeling safe and happy, with bullying being effectively addressed, and they enjoy their time at CTA as a result of the changes made.

While we are proud of our achievements, we recognise that there is always more work to be done. We are committed to providing a positive learning journey for every child who walks through our doors.

As important as it is to reflect on the successes of the year, it is equally important to look ahead to the future and the exciting things to come. We are thrilled to be able to again run our Summer School, which will take place in the first week of the summer holidays. It is always a highlight for both our current pupils and those who will be joining us in Year 7, helping them become familiar with our school and make new friends before they start in September.

We are immensely proud of how our year 11 and 13 pupils conducted themselves during their external exams and know that they have already made our school proud. A reminder that A-Level Results Day is on 15th August, and GCSE Results Day is on 22nd August.

We regularly share updates on upcoming events, celebrations, and achievements of our pupils on our social media pages and website. Please consider following us on Facebook, X, and our newly introduced Instagram page. Our 'upcoming events' page on our website has also been updated with all the events scheduled for the next academic year.

We look forward to welcoming all our pupils back on Wednesday, 4th September, and hope that everyone has a restful break.

Thank you once again for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Ms N Mason
Headteacher