

17 December 2020

Dear Parent/Guardian

Autumn term 2020-21: Year 10

Year 10 students have had a great start to their GCSE year. It has been a pleasure being able to see their understanding and knowledge develop across a range of subjects, for example in their catering skills, analysis of poetry and quality of art work. They have worked exceptionally hard over the last 12 weeks and settled into the year well. It is testament to their character that they've been able to focus and they have demonstrated great resilience.

I am very proud that as a Year group they have received 97% positive recognition from their class teachers this term. Almost half of the Year group have zero behaviour points which is the most we have ever had going into Christmas. I look forward to recognising these students' efforts at the end of this term as well as acknowledging those who have made huge improvements in behaviour and effort.

It is essential that Year 10 begin to prepare thoroughly for their GCSE exams. The examinations are more difficult than ever and starting the revision process now is very important. In English students will be required to remember quotes from the four different text they study. In Maths and Science students may not revisit topics from this term again until Year 11. Active revision is really important and flash cards, visual diagrams, and condensing information have proved to work well. The best form of revision is to try exam questions and then focus on areas where there were gaps in knowledge or understanding.

Students may need additional resources such as highlighters, flash cards, coloured pens and writing pads to support their revision. The Christmas holiday would also be a good time to replenish school equipment to ensure that students are able to get straight back to work at school in the new year.

The next 15 months for students are vitally important as they begin to shape their future. What they do now will ease the transition in to the world of work and further study. Exam results are of course important, as is the character and determination that they show and they should try to take every opportunity presented to them in school.

Please find a summary of key dates for Year 10 below:

Tuesday 2 March 2021: Subject evening
Tuesday 27 April 2021: Revision evening
Thursday 15 July 2021: Form tutor evening

Usually, subject, revision and form tutor evenings would take place as face-to-face meetings in school. Whilst we hope to be able to return to these as soon as possible, it may be necessary to



conduct these via telephone as we did with the form tutor phone calls that were made towards the end of last half-term. More information about this will be issued nearer to the time.

Finally, I would like to thank you for all your support as parents this term to keep the Year group focused on their learning. Please continue to interact with ClassCharts at home to keep track on how your son/daughter are doing day to day. Class teachers and form tutors are always willing to take your call if you have any concerns. Mrs Smith and I are also available to support you with your queries or concerns.

Remember the new term is a fresh start for everyone- which is the great thing about school. Everyone is able to achieve highly irrespective of their starting points. I look forward to continuing to work with you in ensuring that our youngsters become the most successful students they can be whilst at Lees Brook.

Enjoy a lovely Christmas break with family and friends.

Yours sincerely,

Ben Taylor
Head of Year 10