



Dear Parents/Carers,

The strangest of half terms has come to an end. I cannot believe that 8 weeks have come and gone in a flash! We have all had to adapt, and continue to adapt to new practices and procedures in order to keep others and ourselves safe.

I have been overwhelmed with the ability of the students to adapt to changing rules in school and how we move around the building. I know that their movement has been severely restricted and that their year group 'bubble' have a certain area in which to locate themselves, but on the whole they have done this with incredible maturity and a real understanding of what is required of them.

We have achieved so much in the past 8 weeks. The initial hurdle of being back in school full time after a considerable amount of time away from the building was a struggle for some. But to see the students interact with each other both in and outside the classroom was a fantastic sight and brought a real sense of joy in this most difficult of years.

I have witnessed some fantastic work being produced, some incredible focus in classrooms and I am getting a real sense of the students understanding how important this year is.

We have introduced our 'Hylands Habits' to the year group. In a series of assemblies we have talked about how students can 'be responsible', 'be resilient', 'be respectful' and the impact these can have on their own and others' learning.

We have started to look at how students can 'be aspirational' as they move on to the next chapter in their lives. Several students have had a careers interview with Mrs Wood, our careers advisor to gain some real informed advice and guidance on the next steps. Mr Parry is also ensuring that he meets with every student in year 11 to ensure that student's feel supported in this most important of academic years.

Next half term see's students sit their first set of mock exams. In these ever changing times never before have mock exams been so important. We will be doing sessions during their tutor time with regards to time management and revision techniques. These will also be covered in the information packs that have been sent home with your child.

Hylands School

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I would like to end by saying, as I have written to you before, how proud I am to be their Head of Year. The students' resilience cannot be questioned and they are working so hard to achieve the very best results in the subjects they are studying. I would also like to thank you for all your efforts and support in this half term. Without our support network, which runs between the school, the student and parents/carers, none of our successes would be possible.

I wish you all a safe and restful break and I look forward to welcoming our wonderful students back on Monday 2 November at 8:25am.

Kind regards,

Mr Hawkins
Head of Year 11

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