

Dear parents and carers,

We have made it to the final week of term. Students are looking tired, staff are looking tired, but we can all hold in there for our last few days! Just a reminder that Year 8s will finish **at 12:25pm** on Friday.

You will be receiving soon a data collection sheet for you to check or complete for your child in Year 8. This is to ensure that the school holds the correct, most up-to-date information for yourselves and that any errors can be corrected. Depending on how you have identified parental contact priorities, you may receive more than one per family for the same child - in all cases, only one per child needs to be completed. It is crucial (and a legal requirement) that the data we hold is accurate and up-to-date, so your cooperation with this exercise is greatly appreciated.

As we approach the final ten days before Christmas, can we please be encouraging students to be doing everything they can to prevent the spread of COVID - social distancing, masks at all required times, minimising the number of "close contacts", and so forth. As you will know from the communication from Gary Wakefield last week, the school will be on duty until Christmas Eve doing the contact tracing required - and any such track-and-trace from this week will overlap with Christmas Day, which nobody wants. We will continue with our measures in school to reduce close contacts, but there are a number of students who seem to believe that being careful starts and finishes at the school gates, so any gentle encouragement from yourselves is greatly appreciated too.

Finally, we would like to wish you all a merry Christmas and a happy new year. It has been a challenging term, with certainly another challenging term to come, but it has been a pleasure to really get to know so many of our Year 8 students - because they are largely confined to one area, we are able to interact with them far more in our roles than usual, which has been lovely.

Kind regards,

Aaron Phillips & Emma Terry
Assistant Principal & Progress Leader