

Carwarden House Community School

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Headteacher: Tim Stokes

small community **thinking big**

Tuesday 21st July 2020

Dear Parents / Carers,

I am writing to you with the last ParentMail of this academic year – and what an extraordinary year it has been! We have all had to face the incredibly challenging and constantly changing circumstances of a world-wide pandemic. We have all had to make sense of what the latest guidance meant for us and made massive adjustments in both our personal and working lives. Whilst we can all recognise there have been some real positives to 'lockdown', I think you would agree that it has been an incredibly stressful period that none of us could have predicted.

Throughout the past months I have endeavoured to keep you informed of exactly how the COVID-19 measures would impact on your child's education. I've shared with you the detailed plans we implemented at very short notice to provide an increasing number of students with superb childcare provision in school. I've shared how each of our families could access an increasingly high-quality home-learning offer. I've shared a huge array of resources and services designed to help and support your child during a particularly anxious time – supporting their on-going education whilst also doing all we could to safeguard their wellbeing and mental health. And in my last ParentMail I outlined all the detailed arrangements we have made to ensure every student can return to school safely in September.

I know that virtually all school leaders have reported that they've never had to work so hard in their careers, working exceptionally long hours day after day, including weekends and holidays. What I would add is that I could not have managed without the amazing support our wonderful staff team have given from day one.

Their unquestioned commitment and dedication to supporting every student at Carwarden has been truly inspirational and I feel both humbled and incredibly

privileged to lead such an exceptional team. And our Governors too have been there for us throughout this crisis, constantly ensuring we have been doing everything possible to support our students. I am exceptionally proud of what we have managed to achieve together during these frightening and uncertain times.

What has also made a real difference has been the many, many messages we have received from you, the parents. Your thoughtfulness, positivity and expressions of gratitude have been deeply appreciated.

Preparing for September

We look forward to welcoming all students back to Carwarden on **Monday 7th September**.

To help us prepare to provide your child with all the support they will need next term we need to understand, as best we can, the impact that the COVID-19 situation and 'lockdown' has had on each individual student. We have put two surveys on the website which we are asking you and you your child to complete prior to coming back to school. The '**Parental Wellbeing Survey**' and '**Student Wellbeing Survey**' can be found on the Well-being section of our website:

<https://www.carwarden.surrey.sch.uk/well-being/well-being-surveys>

All that remains for me to do is wish you all a restful, happy and healthy summer break. And if you need to contact us during the holiday period please email:

ept@carwarden.surrey.sch.uk or call the school mobile:

07377 019855

Kind regards, stay safe and stay positive,

Tim Stokes
Headteacher