



The John Warner School • Stanstead Road • Hoddesdon • Hertfordshire • EN11 0QF
Telephone: 01992 462889 • Facsimile: 01992 470679 • E-mail: admin@johnwarner.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.johnwarner.herts.sch.uk • Headteacher: Jeremy M. Scott

17th July 2020

Dear Parent(s)/Carer(s)

Re. End of Summer Term (17th July 2020)

As we reach the end of this extraordinary year, I wanted to write home and wish you all the very best for the summer break.

On Friday, 20th March 2020, a full seventeen weeks ago, the school ceased to operate in its full and normal capacity. At the time, we were not to know how deeply the Coronavirus pandemic would disrupt all of our lives, nor did we know the impact it would have on the education of children around the world. It is too early to fully reflect on what has happened and I am convinced we will be trying to make sense of the last few months for some time to come.

To summarise my feelings about the situation in three words I choose grateful, sad and optimistic.

I am grateful that this rather strange academic year has come to an end. The efficient management of any large organisation is dependent on routine and certainty. The only certainty we have had over the last few weeks is that there has been no overall routine to the school with different groups of pupils coming in on different days to ensure we could spread the coverage of teaching and support as widely as possible. I am very grateful for the combined efforts of staff, parents/carers and pupils to maintain some form of educational continuity. While there are many restrictions and challenges to both home learning and on-site provision under such tight guidelines, we have seen examples of outstanding work from pupils and innovative and effective approaches by teachers. Parents/carers have been called on to support their child/children's learning like never before and I am extremely grateful for the additional efforts you have made.

I am sad about the lost educational experiences and opportunities that children will have missed over the last few months. My sadness is especially strong for those in Years 11 and 13 whose preparations for final examinations and anticipation of proms, celebrations and other rites of passage were so abruptly brought to an end. We feel the sadness that many have suffered during this pandemic – for those who are bereaving, struggling or stressing. We know that there will be many pieces to pick up with some of our pupils in the autumn and I hope that the relaxation of lockdown rules gives some sense of freedom and joy to all our families. I am sad that we could not do more for our pupils on-site – a balance had to be struck between meeting health and safety needs outlined in the guidance and providing as much face-to-face time for identified groups of pupils.

Mostly, I am optimistic about the future. I believe there are many positives that we can draw from our collective experience. The use of remote learning as a tool for staff and pupils when they are not on site, for example, will be developed in the coming months and years and there are likely to be benefits to some of the enforced changes we are having to introduce in September. We are all very excited about all our pupils returning to school in September so that we can ignite a lifelong passion for learning, help them discover and develop their potential and flourish in this ever-changing world.



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I wish all pupils, staff, parents/carers, governors and friends of the school a very safe and enjoyable summer break.

Best wishes.

Mr Jeremy Scott
Headteacher

Staff Leaving

We say goodbye today to the following members of staff who we thank for their contributions to the school and wish them every success in the future.

Mrs Jennifer Leaver

Mrs Leaver has worked in the Faculty of Modern Foreign Languages since July 2018 and has contributed much, not only in her teaching but also through her involvement with the Combined Cadet Force and the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Mrs Leaver will be moving back to Liverpool.

Mr Andrew Kinnaird

Mr Kinnaird has worked in the faculties of Mathematics and Science since July 2017. He has taught mathematics and physics at all levels and has also contributed through his involvement in the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Mr Kinnaird is returning to Northern Ireland.

Mr Andrew Grewcock

Mr Grewcock has worked in the faculties of Physical Education and Science since July 2016. Alongside his teaching, Mr Grewcock has had pastoral responsibilities as a Head of House and most recently Head of Year 7 as well as contributing through the Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme. Mr Grewcock is relocating to Derbyshire.

Mr Robert Schrimshaw

Mr Schrimshaw has taught in the Faculty of Professional Studies, mostly as a teacher of Business Studies since July 2015. Mr Schrimshaw has held a number of pastoral roles in the school including Head of House, Deputy Head of Upper School and, most recently, Head of Upper School (Years 9-11). Mr Schrimshaw is moving to a new role in Dubai.

Mr Simon Robinson

Mr Robinson has worked in the Faculty of Mathematics since September 2013 most recently as the Assistant Headteacher in charge of Mathematics across the school. Mr Robinson has led the faculty with a calm professionalism that has been respected by all who have worked with him. Mr Robinson is returning to the north east of England.



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Mrs Lisa Smith

Mrs Smith has worked in the Faculty of Humanities since September 2010. She has held a number of positions including Interact Coordinator, Subject Leader for Psychology and, most recently, Subject Leader for Geography. Mrs Smith is taking up a new position at a local secondary school.

Mr David Kennedy

The contributions made to The John Warner School and The Hoddesdon School Trust by Mr Kennedy since he joined as Headteacher of The John Warner School in 1999 are numerous and will be fully observed in the autumn term. He retires from his role as CEO of The Hoddesdon School Trust at the end of the term and we wish him a well-deserved and happy retirement. Mr Kennedy will still have a significant involvement in our school as the Chair of the Board of Trustees. We take this opportunity to thank him for the commitment and care he has shown to generations of pupils.

Staff joining

The following members of staff either have joined us recently or will be joining in September:

Mr Andrew Bolton – Teacher of Design and Technology

Miss Martina Comiati – Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages

Mr George Evangelou – Teacher of Business Studies

Mr Moncef Fakhfakh – Head of the Faculty of Mathematics

Mr Andrew Green – Teacher of Geography

Miss Rhian Hanson – Teacher of Science

Miss Megan Jones – Teacher of Science

Mr Camillo Makwanga – Teacher of Business Studies

Mr Ian Pottinger – Teacher of Geography

Mrs Devi Ramanah-Smith – Teacher of Mathematics

Miss Judith Stephenson – Teacher of Modern Foreign Languages and Head of Year 7