



Church of England School  
Executive Head and CEO: Dr Hilary Macaulay

15<sup>th</sup> December 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

**Year 7 End of Term**

As the first term of your child's time at Bishop Ramsey draws to a close, I just wanted to provide a summary of how well they have settled and also provide some key information as the new term begins.

I am pleased to report that all students appear to have settled very quickly into secondary school and many have made many new friends. The Year 7 Away Day to Woodrow House proved very successful and enabled students to engage in team building activities. Students engaged in high ropes, orienteering and additional problem-solving activities which enabled them to face their fears, overcome obstacles and work together as a group. The day ensured that students had the opportunity to gain invaluable social skills and further widen their friendship group.

There have been a multitude of extra-curricular clubs offered and I know that many Year 7's have stayed after school and made the most of all opportunities. This has included the vast array of sports clubs, music, choir, debating, eco-club, chess, tech club and drama to name but a few. In addition, I have personally led a 'Social' club for any year 7 to attend who wanted the opportunity to meet others from other forms and widen their social network. I am delighted that over 50 students have been regularly attending.

The Year 7 students have also contributed to the Christmas Carol concert, we were also extremely fortunate to have the London Gospel Choir in for a two-day workshop which proved extremely popular. A small cohort of Year 7 students also visited their former primary school at St John's and led an assembly for the younger students.

As the term draws to a close, we have now held hustings for the roles of form and vice captains, in addition, we held a celebration assembly where all subjects rewarded those students who had made either a significant contribution or shown progress in their lessons. Students were also rewarded for the house points that they have been allocated and 15 students were invited to a rewards party based on their attitude to learning.

The use of devices has been deemed to be extremely effective. Students enjoy using them effectively in lessons, either designing presentations, researching independently or using one of the many subject specific apps to assist their learning. I am aware that some students have had issues with accessing Wifi printers at home and ask that if you would like to link your home printer to your child's device then this can be done. Your child should visit the ICT technicians and state the make and model of their printer at home so that the relevant driver can be installed. I must however stress, that no student is ever expected to produce and complete work that is printed.

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Students have now received their first report and have been assigned a specific pathway based on their CATs score. These pathways are not fixed and will be regularly reviewed and changed if a teacher feels that it is necessary. We wait until students have completed at least their second formal assessment to do so, to ensure we have as much information on a student's ability. Having looked at the Year Group data, I am so pleased that so many Year 7 students have started their secondary education so strongly, with a high work ethic, outstanding attitude to learning and excellent progress. Students should be commended for their positive start to the year. Where your child has been identified as being below target, they will be directed by their class teacher on specific areas to cover to help make further progress. To support progress, all students are participating in regular weekly reading in their form groups on a Thursday and all students will have the opportunity to read to their form tutor throughout the year. In addition, any student who requires additional support is being assisted by a team of staff and also 6<sup>th</sup> form reading mentors.

To enable you to support your child, a letter detailing the topic areas that they will be studying next term will be attached. Furthermore, the key dates for next term are listed below.

**Spring term Key Dates:**

School Production	8 and 9 <sup>th</sup> February
BR Got Talent	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> March
World Book Day	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March
Year 7 Reports Available	Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March
Curriculum Day	Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March
Year 7 Parents' Evening	Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March

I am delighted that the Year 7's have settled in so well and look forward to further progress next term.

I would like to take this opportunity to wish you and your family a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Best wishes,

**Ms C Priestley**  
**Year 7 Director**