



# WELLACRE

19<sup>th</sup> March, 2020

Dear Parent/Carers,

## Re: Year 11 Students

I know what you're thinking. How can they possibly have cancelled the exams? Cancelled. That's what he said, right? Well, yes, I'm afraid he did say that. We don't yet know what that will mean for you in terms of your qualifications. I would only be speculating at this point. What the Prime Minister and Secretary of state for Education did say was ... 'Exams will not take place as planned in May and June. Progress to post-16 will not be impeded. Results will be decided fairly but we don't know how. You will get qualifications but not sure how they will be administered'. This morning the SOS for Education has stated that they plan for you to get grades in August, but under a different process and a different system.

Hopefully I can provide you with more updates soon.

Today was your last official day at Wellacre. Year 11 normally get a big leavers day send-off prior to exams, with a video of your time over the last 5 years, a year book and shirt signing! Then there's the Prom! I hope our assembly today made up in part for that.

We cannot do all of these things with you, but we will put together a video and a year book and invite you back at some point, to make sure we celebrate your last 5 years with us. If we can, we will still arrange a prom for you.

For the last 5 years, you have spent most days pushing yourself, motivating yourself, challenging yourself to be the best you can be. I'm so proud of you all.

I have watched you like a parent, all grow up and turn into the hard working, polite, kind and resilient young men that sit before me today. I could not be prouder.

You may be thinking now, that it was all for nothing. Let me assure you, it was not! The outcome is still the same, despite the end goal. Your knowledge and all we have taught you will carry you through. There are many more opportunities to explore and certainly more challenges ahead, but the skills you have acquired will ensure you are well equipped and prepared for them.

The determination, resilience and pride you have shown over the last 5 years is needed now and in abundance. You will get through this. You will succeed and when you do I will be even more proud.





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So please, as you leave the school building, don't forget all that has happened here. The blood, sweat and the tears, the kindness, the laughter, the friendships, the staff.

It would take far too long to review all the highlights of the last 5 Years but I thought I would try and remind you of just some of the events that you will have possibly been involved in ranging from a variety of sporting opportunities and activities including; swimming, orienteering, archery, badminton, table tennis, dodgeball and BMX biking, boxing and Jujitsu RUGBY, Sports Leaders, Football (and the astro)!

Trips and Enrichment opportunities too numerous to mention but have included:

The introduction of our new house system and House events.

Careers and Enterprise including our Annual Careers fair and career opportunities, including visits to Universities, the Brilliant Club, visits to construction industry sites and presentations from apprenticeship providers, colleges and local employers.

Year 7 Residential, trips to the Panto, Ski trip to Austria, Battlefield tour to France and Belgium, water sports trip to Spain, art trips to London and further afield to New York and South Africa Geography and History field trips; visits to the Peak District, Irlam Locks and Salford Quays and way back in Year 7 designing and building castles and forts and the Politics projects including interviewing John Bercow (Speaker of the House of Commons), Kate Green MP, Andy Burnham (Mayor Greater Manchester) and Lord Tyler, participating in GM Health conference, Let's talk SEND conference and Let's talk Youth project and taking a stance against Clean Air, Bike Safety and Plastic use.

Visits from Spanish exchange students and our South African twins, Local MPs and Lords, sports personalities, authors and poets and many other inspirational guest speakers from Courtney Fry to Juan Mata.

We have celebrated and commemorated events such as Black History Month, LGBTQ month, Mental Health Awareness, Holocaust Memorial Day and Remembrance Day every year.

You've taken part in charity events, including Key 103 Christmas toy appeal, Christmas jumper day, cake sales and non-uniform days, donated food parcels, to our Christmas Carol concerts and of course last year's Wellacre's Got Talent event. You have helped raise over £30K since you started with us in Year 7!!!

STEM Events such as the Go4Set STEM challenge Manchester University, participated in the Festival of Chemistry, visited Jodrell Bank and took part in the National Cryptography Competition.

There have been MasterChef competitions galore.





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Our superb drama and musical performances in terms of showcase evenings and of course our annual production. With a huge number of you taking part in the choir, on stage and helping out backstage too. You have performed in Grease, Charlie and the Chocolate Factory, Oliver, We Will Rock you and The Wizard of Oz.

Evolution Band won Trafford battle of the Bands last year and got best performance at the NorthWest Final.

Community events such as Urmston in Bloom, The Tatton Flower show and Teenmate project at DeBrooke Lodge and our annual Community Cohesion day and work experience week, NHS 70<sup>th</sup> birthday mural and Teens and Toddlers at Delamere.

Student leadership opportunities, including sports leaders, Student ambassadors, Student librarians, Literacy Leaders, Wellbeing Ambassadors, Anti Bully Ambassadors, Student Subject Leaders, Student Council, Executive Student Council and of the Prefect Team.

It is fair to say you have had a very busy 5 years!

Above all I hope you have enjoyed your time at Wellacre and that it has helped you prepare well for the challenges that lie ahead.

Year 11, you are resilient, you are intelligent and most of all, you are amazing. Be proud of who you are and all that you have to offer the world; the best is yet to come.

Please take the time to thank your teachers, the support staff, teaching assistants and canteen staff. They have all been there for you and will continue to be, long after you have left the building.

I am immensely proud of all your achievements. Always believe in yourself, take pride in who you are and how far you have come. You were born to be successful. Go out and conquer the world!

Best wishes to you all for a fantastic future.

Yours sincerely,

**Miss Wicks**  
**Principal**

