

# Oakbank School



12<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

Congratulations on surviving a whole term of remote learning! On January 4<sup>th</sup>, as Oakbank staff gathered together online for a training day, none of us had any idea that the term was going to turn out as it did.

I would like to thank you for your resilience, support and commitment in enabling your sons and daughters to succeed in the way they have this term. The engagement and the quality of the work produced by your children has been fabulous, and so much better than it was during the first period of school closure. It has not been easy and I do not underestimate the challenges you have faced; accessing appropriate equipment, learning how to use Teams, encouraging surly teenagers to work, supporting your children through the daily challenges they have faced, and countless other complications and difficulties we have all encountered this term. Without you and your support none of this would be possible and I would personally like to recognise all you have done to help your children in their learning.

I hope that all of you manage to have a restful half-term break, even if don't have the usual opportunities for holidays or fun days out! I would encourage you all to try to reduce the amount of screen time for your children. They have spent weeks looking at laptops and now is an opportunity to do other things, I know I am looking forward to countryside walks, board games and cooking with my family, I am sure you will be doing many other exciting things!!

We return, on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February, to at least two more weeks of remote learning. The government have said that they will provide us with more information about the return to school on our first day back and I will share more information with you as I receive it. We should also find out more detail about Year 11 GCSE procedures in the next few days, and again, I will share these with you as soon as I have them.

Once again, thank you for all you have done this term and have a great half term holiday,

Robin Bertrand