



Friday 11th June 2021

Dear Parents,

Taking exams in their stride: we have all been so impressed by the mature approach of our Years 7 and 8 this week as they have appeared confident, self-assured and determined in their outward approach to the challenges of the assessments. It has been a different timetable and process as the children have had revision slots built into their day with the aim of making them more independent. I hope they have had the chance to show their hard work, diligence and ability. The results will tell a story; fingers crossed they get what they deserve.

The College Restructure You will have seen the communication from Ben Figgis about the College Restructure from September 2022. Many thanks for your support, insightful questions and positive contributions to the *Q and A* sessions we have had, and various emails too. It is an exciting new chapter in the school's history and we are deep in the throes of planning a fresh curriculum and academic and pastoral offerings as well as new buildings and facilities to endeavour to make sure your children are given a continued outstanding education.

As explained in the calls, additional to the excellent classroom teaching, and pastoral care, which are a given, we are seeking to build in additional strands to this offering in the form of expanded language provision, subject specialisms, and outdoor education to name a few for the benefit of all in the new Prep, with a view to creating first-class facilities that will enable generosity, ingenuity, curiosity, and an adventurous attitude in their approach all-round. Those arriving in the Lower School from Year 7 will be presented with all their own, spacious, homely and bespoke accommodation, with an exciting 11-16 curriculum and even more independence and maturity as part of a new strand of the Senior School.

Discussions with the children: you may well have had a conversation about all of this with your child/children already. However, please feel reassured that we are discussing the restructure with your children and giving them the opportunity to ask any questions or express their concerns.

Flexibility and Covid: we have all become used to the need for change to our schedules due to the current global situation. Please be mindful that the final three weeks of term are extremely busy, action-packed and enormous fun, yet there may well be alterations to what has been published and what is expected. Your support in this is hoped for and is much appreciated. We will endeavour to give you plenty of warning; please understand that any decision will not be taken lightly and always in the interest of the health and safety of the children, the community and the greater impact too.

Have a restful weekend; the top end of the school deserve special treats at the end of exams!

Yours ever

Harry Hastings
Head of Ardingly Prep School