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Dear Parents

This will be my final letter to you as Head of Sixth - Year 12, and I'd like to wish you and your sons all the best as they head into the summer and look forward to Year 13. As you know, I'm moving on from BWS to a school in Devon, nearer my wife who has been working in Exeter for most of this year. It's been a pleasure to work with your sons, and I've enjoyed supporting them academically and pastorally over the past year, and especially seeing them get stuck into a wide variety of school activities and take on leadership roles within the school. Recent brief interviews with each of them have been very interesting, and mean I have good notes on each student to pass on to Mrs Lambard who is joining BWS in September as Head of Sixth Form, and who will have particular responsibility for Year 13 students. Mrs Gough of the Maths Department also joins the Sixth Form team as Assistant Head of Sixth Form.

Do encourage your sons in their exploration and planning for post-A level options, whether that is Higher Education, an apprenticeship or other employment. Many have been on Open Day visits and taster days or courses in recent weeks, and it's been great to chat to them about how they've found those and what their next steps are. For those who are uncertain, there are further open days in the autumn which they can book on to, but we'd hope no student will miss more than another day or two of school for those. Mrs Armstrong has worked with all the boys recently on how UCAS works and got them registered online, as well as giving workshops on writing personal statements. She is also seeing each student individually to explore their aspirations and to ensure they are clear on their next steps.

Year 12 reports are now available to you on the Insight system and term ends on Friday 19 July at about 12.00pm following morning lessons and an assembly. The new school year starts on Wednesday 4 September at 8.40am, although a number of students will have been in before that if they are prefects or running a stand at the Societies Fair for the new Year 12s – those boys have already had emails about those commitments and we really value their contributions to welcoming in new students. Other key dates include –

- 21 October – Year 13 By Invitation Parents' afternoon (for students about whose progress staff have concerns)
- 14 – 17 January – Year 13 prelim exams
- 6 February – Year 13 Parents' Evening

Also a reminder that for many of those students applying for Medicine or to Oxbridge, there will be an admissions test held at school on 30 October, the Wednesday of half-term. Those boys concerned should already be aware of the implications, but it is a key date for c25 students to be aware of.

Finally, many Year 12 students will have an external exam result due in August – for Core Maths, Further Maths AS, or EPQ. We won't want them to come into school on Thursday 15 August to collect those grades, as the Sixth Form team will be focused on supporting the Year 13 Leavers with their A level results and confirmation of university places. Instead results will all be available on the Insight system on Friday 16 August, so boys will learn how they've done and hopefully have something to celebrate.

Best wishes to you all, now and into the future.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'A. Endersby', with a long horizontal flourish underneath.

Alastair Endersby
Head of Sixth – Year 12