



PLATANOS COLLEGE

An outstanding school for
pupils of all abilities

PUPIL WEEKLY BULLETIN

W/C Monday 27th April 2020

Edition 3

Attitude Determines Altitude

WELCOME

Welcome to the Platanos College pupil weekly bulletin, uploaded to our website and SMHW weekly.

Staff are working tirelessly to organise your online learning. Form tutors wanted to share their messages with you this week. Please read through this bulletin to see what they had to say:

YEAR 7 FORM TUTOR MESSAGES

Dearest 7A,

I hope each and every one of you is currently safe, healthy, and as content as you might be in these times. I know it must have been difficult for you to adjust to your new lifestyles and routines but I know you're all highly adaptable and will be making the most out of this situation the best you can.

I miss seeing all your smiley faces each morning as you walk into 1B13 and all of our energetic discussions and debates in PSHRE. I would relish the moments of collecting your homework, especially when you had opportunities to be creative, because I know how much time and effort you would put into your work at home. It's

always so lovely to see your work adorning our tutor board!

You are a very hardworking, dedicated bunch and I've been so impressed with the work that has been submitted on Show My Homework these last few weeks. It makes me very proud to be your form tutor.

I hope you are filling your time with things that bring you joy as you also rest, recuperate and take stock of the things in your life that you are grateful for. This is a time to look after yourselves, your family, your friends, your pets, your homes. Be happy and appreciate life.

I'm uber excited to see you all soon, miss you lots 7A!

Miss Cooke

Dear 7B,

I hope that you are all safe and healthy. I just wanted you to know that I miss each one of you, your enthusiasm and resilience and the different personality that makes you unique. I miss our PHRSE seasons and the things that we have

learnt together. There was not better way to start Mondays than with you.

You have taught me so many things since the start of the academic year and I want you to be proud of yourselves for all the things that you have achieved this year and I am very proud of you. School is important but so is your health. Take care of yourself and of each other, enjoy the time with your family, read and be creative and of course do your homework. This too shall pass. And we will see each other soon.

“Every great dream begins with a dreamer. Always remember, you have within you the strength, the patience, and the passion to reach for the stars to change the world.” -Harriet Tubman.

Ms Roso

I know that you are all missing school and your friends. Remember that it is important to take good care of yourselves, both physically and mentally.

I know that some of you are finding home schooling a bit challenging but keep at it. We know that you can only do your best and that's good enough for us. Keep trying and keep smiling.

Try Your Best

If you always try your best
then you'll never have to wonder
about what you could have done
if you'd summoned all your thunder.
And if your best
Was not as good
As you hoped it would be,
You still could say,
“I gave today
All that I had in me.”

Ms Browne

Dear 7C,

I hope you are all keeping well and remembering to "wash wash, wash your hands!" (if you need a cheering up, that fabulous video is still available on youtube!)

This is a very strange and worrying time for us all, but I have no doubt that you are continuing to be your kind and thoughtful selves, looking after those around you and remaining patient. Keep working hard, as I know so many of you are from all the wonderful homework you've been turning in. This has made me very proud and is a real pleasure to receive.

I miss you all very much!

Ms Hall

Dear 7D,

I hope you and your families are all well.

I know that it is sometimes difficult to motivate yourself, but focus on all of the excellent lessons your teachers have created.

It is a difficult time, and you are coping with it well. You are working very hard.

If you are having problems uploading work or logging in, all you have to do is email

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the pastoral email. We are here to support you. See you soon.

Dear 7H,

I hope you are well and staying safe. It is a very strange time for all of us and some days will be better than others.

Try your very best to maintain a routine and keep both your mind and body active.

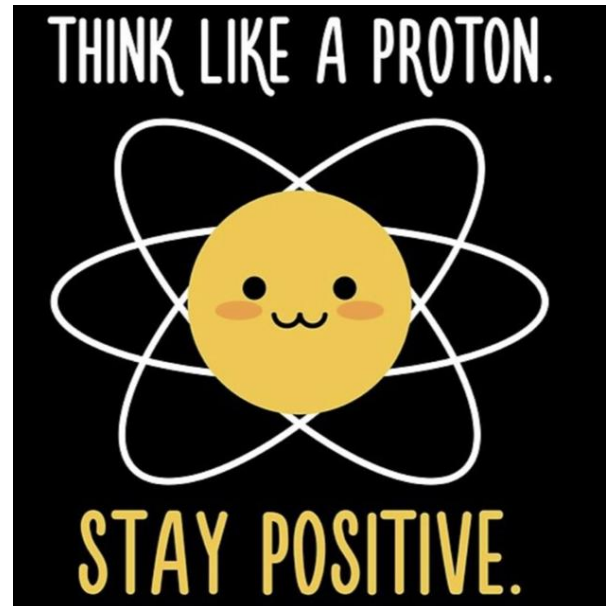
I look forward to reuniting with you all hopefully soon!

Best wishes,
Ms Wall

Dear 7W,

Welcome back to Term 5! We hope that you are all well and that you and your family are keeping safe. We also hope you are enjoying the sunshine and keeping yourself busy at home and having some fun.

We look forward to seeing you all back at school but for now take care, stay safe and....



Mr Anyanwu

Greetings 7E,

Now that we have had two weeks of remote learning prior to the Easter half-term we have had a lot to think about and consider.

Firstly, we need to consider the things to be grateful and thankful for as there are others in a less fortunate position. Maybe our relatives and friends are in other cities and countries with different restrictions set by the government.

Secondly, for our ability to adapt to the circumstances that have changed in our daily lives of work, play and relaxation.

Take some time to reflect on happenings around us...

- 1) You could start by (if you have not already) keeping a daily 'lockdown' or 'social distancing' journal (You have all the time in the world).
- 2) Complete a written piece along with a drawing about 'Things you have found out...'

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(this could be about yourself, maybe about your family or siblings as you have more time together).

3) Write or draw about what you think or imagine the immediate future will be like once we are able to integrate again... (consider that we have to be more careful with how you greet a friend-thinking twice about high fiving or spudding etc).

4) Alternatively, try to do something different each day or week, challenge yourself to do something unusual.

I would like to extend my well wishes to all our Muslim families honouring the holy month of Ramadan for the next 30 days.

The fellowship and interaction will be different at this time but the purpose will be as poignant as ever.

I look forward to seeing everyone once the government permits. In the meantime, continue to be safe, work hard and learn. Enjoy the time with your family and being a part of history.

Best wishes,
Mr. Klassen

YEAR 8 FORM TUTOR MESSAGES

Dear 8A,

The curiosity and eagerness on wider world issues you all bring to debate with me is something I am deeply missing and look forward to hearing again soon.

Your unforgettable personalities, humour and great class friendship is what always got me in the spirit every day.

Your dedication to learn and succeed is something never gone unnoticed throughout and I hope a continuation of this during this difficult time. Keep safe, healthy and positive!

Ms Bejtullahu

Dear 8D,

I hope you're safe and keeping well especially in this unprecedented time. It is very important to stay at home and stay positive by doing as many productive things you would like to do to keep yourself busy. The most important aspect of life is to take good care of your health by keeping physically active which is a really good therapy for your mental health.

It is really rare to not be able to come into work seeing you all in class. I am sure you must be missing your friends and school as well. Although I have been your form tutor for a short period of time, I must say I miss having our conversations in the morning whether it's related to school work or just any questions you may have. I certainly miss checking merits and the excitement from your class.

I hope you are all completing tasks on show my homework or mymaths. I am very pleased to those who have submitted their work on a regular basis. If you have any questions about your work, please do contact your teachers, we are all here for you.

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And finally, I look forward to see you all very soon. Stay safe.
Ms Damoo

I will see you ALL when the school opens.
Mr Daba

Dear 8B,

I miss each one of you and miss spending time with you every morning.

I pray that you will all stay safe and healthy and that we will be able to meet again soon!

Best Regards,
Ms Ahn

Dear 8H,

I must admit, I have missed our PSHRE lessons. Where I have had the pleasure of seeing how bright and conscious you all are. While I'm sure that you have all been keeping yourselves busy with the classwork that you have received from your subject teachers.

You can still make time in your day for your personal development. Maybe learn a musical instrument or how to code or a language. Whatever it maybe there's plenty of online resources to assist you. I hope you all take up that challenge.

Until life returns to normal - stay safe, wash your hands regularly and I look forward to hearing about the new skills you have learned."

Mr Kabaka

Dear 8C,

This is a very strange and worrying time for us all, but you are stronger than you think.

Keep working hard at home, as best you can and remember that there we are all here to support you.

To all my tutees in 8W,

I hope you are safe and copying well in such difficult times.

I believe that you have continued your studies at home and you are using 'show my homework' as well as other resources appropriately.

May God bless you and keep you and your family well.

Dear 8E,

We hope that this newsletter finds you and your families safe and well during these troubling times. It is so strange not seeing you five days a week as your form tutor.

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There are so many things that I miss about the classroom. The chatter of voices as you come into GD18. Finding out who has gotten merits from the previous day and awarding our pupil of the week. Handing out pens to those that need them and our equipment checks before you start your school day.

I miss hearing from other teachers about how you're all doing in their lessons and how we can support you as a staff body.

In our English classes, I miss the reminders to make sure that your date and title are neatly underlined and that we are making sure our work looks as neat as possible. Teaching you about history, grammar, and how we can identify language devices and discuss what they mean.

Thank you for all the students that have been submitting work on SMHW and for those that have sent work to the Year 8 pastoral team.

Please ensure you continue to do so and merits will be awarded upon our return to school.

I am very much looking forward to welcoming you back as a form group when the school re-opens and supporting you on your educational journey at Platanos College.

Mr C Tannam

YEAR 9 FORM TUTOR MESSAGES

Dear 9A,

This year it has been an incredible journey, watching every one of you grow and succeed in your studies. Thanks for being excellent role models, academic leaders and outstanding pupils of Platanos College.

I know that each of you will succeed in anything you put your minds to, and I am immensely proud of you.

Thank you for giving our job meaning. Keep up the Platanos College spirit and study with utmost dedication.

Ms Amenedo

Dear 9C,

I hope that you and your families are staying indoors, safe and are in good health. It has been pleasing to see a lot of you attempting your work online and a number of your names being displayed on documents of praise - of course as always I am checking up on you, so well done!

Perhaps some of you could encourage your peers to access their learning online too! I hope that where possible you are able to get some fresh air and do something active in your days, there are home workouts loaded onto SMHW so there really are no excuses, you just need yourself.

Alternatively, I am sure you can think of some other ways to be active even if this is by using instagram or learning a dance on Tik Tok! In these uncertain times it is important that you remain positive, laugh

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daily, look after your health and continue to learn new things and skills.

I miss each and every one of you, your stories, your crazy personalities and your humour. Stay safe and before you know it we will all be back together in 'normality'!

Best wishes,
Ms Daniels.

Good day 9B,

It is a difficult moment for all of us as a community but by the Grace of God we will get through this time successfully. It is important to keep fit and maintain normalities in life. Here are the tips for maintaining the normalities.

- Wake up at a set time
- Clean yourself
- Do some sort of exercise
- Have a healthy breakfast
- Then check and complete the work your teachers have set for you to the best of your abilities
- Work hard to achieve your goals
- Stay connected with your family
- Look after your younger siblings
- Above all wash your hands with soap for 20 seconds each time

Remember hard work never goes unrewarded. Be patient and trust your journey. It's going to be hard but hard does not mean impossible. Stay blessed and safe. Remember, you are all in my prayers.

Ms Alam and Ms Azam

Dear 9D,

This is a very strange and worrying time for us all, but you are stronger than you think.

Keep working hard at home, as best you can and remember that there we are all here to support you.

I am sure you can think of some interesting ways to stay active, even if this is using different apps.

Stay strong and we will see you when it is safe to do so.

Dear 9W,

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can adjust my sails to always reach my destination" - Jimmy Dean

We all have to 'Adjust our Sails' during the current pandemic and make sure we reach our destination safely. It is encouraging to see so many of you taking your educational journey seriously and adapting to home learning. As ever I have been keeping a watchful eye on how we are all doing and want to take this opportunity to recognise the excellent contributions by Ammar, Leandro, Tiarne and Beatriz all of whom have submitted fantastic home learning tasks and are keeping up to date with the workload!

I am sure you are all missing the supportive School environment and would encourage you to talk to your classmates as much as you can; we are all in this together! I look forward to seeing you all soon to continue to celebrate our many

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successes! Keep up the excellent work 9W.
Mr Gent

Dear 9H,

I hope you and your love ones are doing well and you are keeping healthy. It has been different not seeing you all for a while during these strange times. I hope you are keeping your minds active and not over doing "The Tik Tok" and Fifa that some of you so love!

Make sure you are still taking part in your weekly PE lessons, as it is so important that you keep your fitness levels up and trust me, you will appreciate it when you return back to school. Continue to enjoy this time with your families and I look forward to seeing you all in the near future.

Take care and stay safe!

Ms Bartley

Dear 9E,

I hope you and your families are well and staying safe. During these unfamiliar times, it is important for you all to show resilience and self discipline.

Until we return to school, it is important that you try and stay on top of all the work you're being set on Show My Homework. Make sure you are using this time to think and research about what additional subject you want to study in Year 10. It is important that you give yourselves the best possible start and that you are

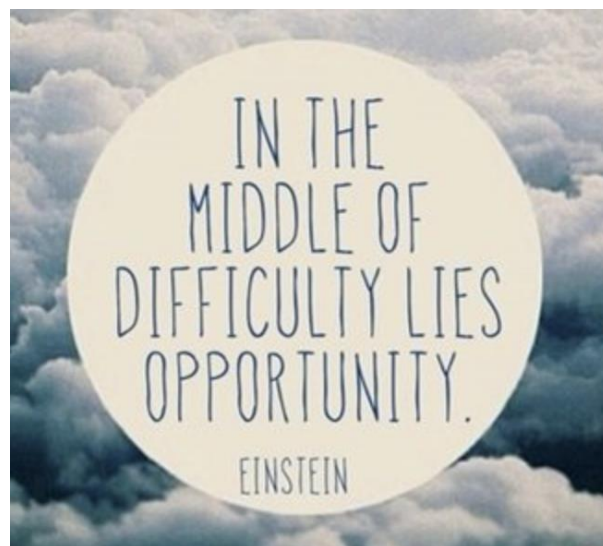
prepared for the next two years in Key Stage 4. Do not waste this time!

Importantly, remember to stay as active as possible at home and try and maintain a well balanced routine. Follow the government's guidelines on social distancing and not meeting up with people you do not live with.

Best wishes and I hope to see you all soon.

Mr Olaniran

YEAR 10 FORM TUTOR MESSAGES



'In the middle of difficulty lies opportunity'
-Einstein

10A1- I hope you are all well and safe, you have all very much been in my thoughts!

The world today is very different to what we are used to and I am extremely proud of those of you who are able to

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continue to work hard and are using this as an opportunity to grow and develop. Please also remember to look after yourselves physically and mentally! Remember all out wellbeing chats in tutor time- keep those in mind!

Remember- as long as you are doing your very best, that is all that you can do!

Stay safe and well, I will see you all soon.
Miss McAteer

Dear 10A2,

I hope you are all safe and well and continuing to work hard from home. I trust you are all staying as active as possible and challenging yourself to investigate new interests.

I really look forward to seeing you all as soon as possible.

Ps I'm starting to miss hearing how loud you all are in the mornings.

Mr Paton

Dear 10A3,

I hope you and your families are all well.

I know that it may seem hard to motivate yourself, but please focus on all of the excellent lessons your teachers have created.

is a difficult time, and you are coping with it well. Remember that we are here for you and ready to support you.

If you are having problems uploading work or logging in, all you have to do is email the pastoral email. We are here to support you. See you soon.

Try to focus on your next steps and stay positive.

Message to my lovely tutor group, 10A4.

I think about you often and hope you are all well and making swift progress with your online lessons. It is easy to glow with pride having a group like 10A4.

I miss witnessing your resolve to succeed across the curriculum, your talent, that brilliant 'off the wall' sense of humour, but above all your kindness. In these strange and testing times, I am certain that you are all members of the huge pandemic of kindness we are seeing in the face of adversity. Stay focused and please feel fully reassured that we will ensure you reach those high goals you set yourself for your GCSEs. Oh, and wear sunscreen.*

*Apologies, this is a 90s music reference. Ask your parents (although I think Joshua and Riley will get it.)

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Dear 10B1,

This is a very strange and worrying time for us all, but you are stronger than you think.

Keep working hard at home, as best you can and remember that there we are all here to support you.

It is so important that you continue to study hard, your GCSEs are not far away. You should try to set yourself a timetable for the day and stick to it.

Stay strong and we will see you when it is safe to do so.

10B2, I hope you are all keeping safe and healthy during these difficult times. I must say, I am really missing the energy, enthusiasm and atmosphere of our classroom every morning and seeing you all each day. It feels strange beginning each morning without the buzz of the classroom and seeing your (mostly!) cheery faces.

Those interactions are what I look forward to the most when we do return. I know it feels like this will go on forever, but things will return to normality and we will be back in 1B12 in no time.

Until then, stay safe, look out for each other, keep your minds active and, most importantly, stay positive - I will see you all very soon! P.S. Some listening and reading for you:

Album of the Week: The Original Rudeboys – This Life
Book of the Month – The Chimp Paradox by Steve Peters.

Mr C Carroll

Dear Students in 10C1,

I do hope you are all safe and well at this time. I can well imagine that you are finding it very difficult to face each day without meeting and greeting your peers and teachers at school on a daily basis. You may be getting very anxious and frustrated about the current situation but try your very best to stay as calm as possible. Most importantly, keep yourselves as active as you can and stay at home.

Finally, you would make me very proud and happy if you could make a conscious effort to send me a few pieces of homework tasks via Show My Homework. You are not at school but you are in my thoughts each day. I am very much looking forward to welcoming you all back whenever school reopens.

Regards,
Ms Anderson

Dear 10C2

I hope you are all safe and healthy. Do know that I think about all of you daily and miss your stories and your antics during tutor time. I am anticipating hearing your stories about how you spent your time during the lockdown, especially Angelo's .

While we face uncharted waters, be proud of your resilience and your ability to adapt to extreme situations.

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Take great care of yourself, stay home and be safe.

Ms Henry-Jarrett

YEAR 11 FORM TUTOR MESSAGES

Dear students in 11A1,

Firstly, I must let you know that I miss you all very much and each day you are in my thoughts. I miss the lively interactions and discussions during our RE lessons, I miss the excuses you gave whenever you turn up to registration late, I miss the way you challenge me in the classroom on topics of interest and I miss how you try to save each other by sharing equipment during my equipment check (this surely brings a smile to my face whenever I reminisce).

I know we are all different individual and this lockdown may affect us in different ways. But one thing I know for sure, I have an unshakable belief in you and that you are all smart, resilient, resourceful and reflective students. So, let's use this challenging period as an educational experience.

Continue to strive for excellence even though you are taken away from the formal educational setting; remember, learning can take place anywhere and at any time. Keep sharpening your skills in all the disciplines so that when this period is over, you are ready to take on the new educational journey in whatever path you have chosen.

Finally, I would like to share with you, the poem below to help you build, courage, hope and continue to have a positive outlook on life:

See It Through
By Edgar Guest

When you're up against a trouble,
Meet it squarely, face to face;
Lift your chin and set your shoulders,
Plant your feet and take a brace.
When it's vain to try to dodge it,
Do the best that you can do;
You may fail, but you may conquer,
See it through!
Black may be the clouds about you
And your future may seem grim,
But don't let your nerve desert you;
Keep yourself in fighting trim.
If the worst is bound to happen,
Spite of all that you can do,
Running from it will not save you,
See it through!
Even hope may seem but futile,
When with troubles you're beset,
But remember you are facing
Just what other men have met.
You may fail, but fall still fighting;
Don't give up, whate'er you do;
Eyes front, head high to the finish.
See it through!

Mr Rigby

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Dear 11A2,

I hope all of you and all of your families are well. It has been very strange, to say the least, not to see you every morning. I do miss sending you off to lessons from our form room with a somewhat facetious but genuinely cheery wave. I even miss the occasional grouchiness of some of you who do not appreciate the mornings as I do (you know who you are). All I can do now is send you a few heartfelt words, although I wish I could see you all to say them in person.

Before the lockdown began, I did not have the chance to tell you all how proud I am of you. Your maturity, resilience and positivity in what is an unprecedented situation have been exemplary. Throughout year 11, your dedication, hard work and determination to succeed consistently reminded me to work harder and made me grateful to come to work and see you all each morning. I hope, as this lockdown continues, you continue to exhibit such inspirational optimism and determination.

You are all unique and wonderful individuals and I am looking forward to hearing from each of you, what you have been doing during the past few weeks. Please do make sure that you keep yourself occupied. Be creative, read books, call your friends, do some work and get outside when you can. We are fortunate to live in a time where technology enables us to explore so many new things so try something new. Use this as an opportunity to pursue something you are passionate about, be it Yoga, learning another language, writing a book, improving your drawing or researching a topic you're curious about. Reach out to someone who already

knows about these things and ask for advice; keeping connections with others has never been more important (I'm here if you need any advice about writing).

Most importantly, look after yourselves, look after your family and look after each other. Stay safe.

Warmest regards,
Ms Cleasby

Dear 11A3,

I am very sad that we were unable to say a goodbye to each other I hope that you learnt many things during your time at Platanos and that you know you will be rewarded at the end of this academic year with grades that reflect the work that you put in at school.

For all of us it is a strange time, however I appreciate that for many of you this will feel even more unsettling as you were unable to sign off from your Secondary School life in the way that every other Year 11 before you has done.

Remember that this is just the one summer and you have many years in front of you to figure out who you are and what you want from life.

Hopefully we will get to see each other again and you can tell me what you are doing and how well it is going.

Good luck for everything in the future and stay strong and keep healthy during this strange time.

Best wishes for everything,
Ms Graham'

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Dear 11A4,

I hope this message finds you all in good health and spirit. It's been a pleasure being your tutor for almost 3 years and I miss seeing you all during our morning routine. So, I wanted to remind you all on what makes 11A4 special:

- Adna's stylishness and helpful nature
- Anisa's subtle and generous persona
- Austin's gentle and pleasant aura
- Beatriz's clever and brilliant conversations
- Bryan's spread of positivity and joyfulness
- Chantay's smart and enjoyable talks
- Dylan's courteous and peaceful custom
- Imaan's sensitivity and kindness for others
- Jayden's super cool and charming presence
- Jenny's funny and amusing encounters
- Joana's creativity and drama aptitude
- Kieran's dedication and resilience to academics
- Kieron's swag walking and cheerfulness
- Leo's polite and tranquil manner
- Liam's originality and sense of humour
- Lola's calm and composed demeanour
- Lucas's basketball flair and elegance
- Miamoona's light-hearted and sweet personality
- Mohamed's trendy thumbs up and sophistication
- Mustafa's wittiness and leadership qualities
- Nuno's eagerness and perseverance for maths
- Omar's outgoing and enjoyable character
- Patrick's mature and delicate style
- Rabiah's flamboyant and powerful voice
- Sabriin's warm and relaxing company
- Samantha's smiles and bubblyness
- Silvia's friendliness and compassion
- Sofien's popular and confident debating skills
- Tania's sociability and enthusiastic charisma

I hope you are all able to see the beauty and light which resides in each one of you.

I wish you all the best to get through these unusual times and for your future endeavours. Stay blessed!

Ms Bajaj

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Dear pupils of 11B1,

I hope you and your families are all well.

I know that this year has not gone as you expected it to. I know you were working so hard towards exams, and looking forward to planning for your prom.

As your teachers, we feel these frustrations too. It is a difficult time, and you are coping with it well.

Try to focus on your next steps and stay positive.

To pupils of 11B2,

I hope you and your families are all well and keeping busy.

I'm sorry that this year hasn't gone as expected. I know you were working so hard towards exams, and looking forward to planning Prom.

As your teachers, we feel these frustrations too. It is a difficult time, and you are coping with it well. I know many of your teachers would have liked to see out the year as we have been working through it together.

I am glad to hear that you are safe, healthy and doing your best during these difficult times. Please stay in touch with each other, and look out for each other. We are all still very much a part of the

Platanos Community. When life continues after lockdown, I hope many of you will visit the school and meet each other.

Until then, keep working on your next steps. I am proud of you all.

Best wishes,
Ms Stephenson

To 11C1,

This has been a strange year for you all. It started with a new tutor, namely me. I do remember some of your initial anxiety, as you tried to work out my character. However, as the year progressed, a strong pupil-tutor relationship built up.

As the corona virus news quickly established and the abrupt closure of school, there was no time to bid you well for the next step in your education. These are strange times and the world will need strong people to re-establish trade, industry and business.

Do not settle to be okay, settle to be better, to be the best at what you can do.

Mr Scott

Our motto, Attitude Determines Altitude is so important to promote and maintain a sense of hope and positive thinking.

We continue to innovate and evolve in what is undoubtedly a challenging

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Tel: 020 7733 6156 | E-mail: info@platanoscollege.com | Web: www.platanoscollege.com

Executive Headteacher: Ms J. Tapper CBE FRSA MA NPQH

time and through sheer determination;
quality learning is still occurring.

Thank you to all of the staff at Platanos
College. More updates will be on their way
to you next week.

If you have a sensible question you would
like staff to answer, please send this in to
the pastoral emails below:

Year7pastoral@platanoscollege.com

Year8pastoral@platanoscollege.com

Year9pastoral@platanoscollege.com

Ks4pastoral@platanoscollege.com

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