

19th October 2020

Dear Parent/Carer,

As you may have seen, we ran a Key to Success Evening to share information with Year 11 parents to try and help you in supporting your child as they approach their GCSE exams. I was very fortunate enough to speak to most of you about how well the Year 11's have settled in and how enormously proud I am of them for the focus and hard work. I also had the opportunity to talk to you about one of our initiatives which is a 'secret'.

As I mentioned we are constantly looking for ways to help motivate and support students so that they achieve the best grades they are capable of. Quite often it is not one single big change that makes a difference but several smaller initiatives. Four years ago, we launched a strategy that had had an impact on the students, wellbeing and results. The exam results are improving year on year, not just because of the dedication of our staff and our fantastic hardworking students but also because of the success of parental engagement.

I understand some parents/carers have already told their children about the 'secret' and I implore you to ask them not to share with the other students.

What is the 'secret'?

We are asking for every parent and or close relative/family friend to write a letter to their child in Year 11. The letter should express all those things that you would like to say to them, if you were able to stand in the exam hall and cheer them on - pride, support and encouragement and so on. We would like to hand these letters out as a surprise to the students as part of a motivational assembly during Year 11, so the whole project needs to be carried out in secret.

Please could you e-mail your letter to me using this e-mail address: MotivationLetter@abbeyparkschool.org.uk or, if you would prefer the letter to be completely private, you could post it to school. Please make it clear on the envelope that your enclosed letter should be handed to me unopened and which student it is intended for.

The deadline is the Friday 12th February to have all the letters in - this gives time to ensure that we do have a letter for every student. If you have concerns or questions about this, please feel free to contact me on 01793 705400.

Kind regards

Mrs L B Bulpitt
Head of Key Stage and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead









