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# MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL 14<sup>th</sup> July 2017

Dear parents, carers and families

An absolutely amazing week this week.

Thank you so much to everyone who attended our 'big picnic'. It was so lovely to see parents and family members, new pupils and their families, Governors and supporters of Endeavour. Who says you need sunshine to have a good time. Despite the differing weather everyone pulled together to make this such a memorable day for the children. I could not have felt any prouder watching everyone share lunch together. A huge thank you to everyone at Thomley Hall for their fantastic organisation and flexibility. The ice cream van was a perfect end to the afternoon.

## **Endeavour Sports Team**

The Endeavour sports team took part in a cricket Festival at Bicester on Monday:

Six students went to Bicester and North Oxford Cricket Club to take part in a multi-school cricket event. The morning was spent practising the skills of throwing, catching, bowling and batting. After a pleasant picnic lunch outside, the students had games of 'Kwik Cricket' against Bardwell School and Mable Pritchard. It was a great day in the July sunshine. Well done to Luke T, Joel, Kieran C, Andrew, Caleb, Mizan (James McAvoy).

#### You Shall Go to the Ball

Last Saturday Rachel Stephens-Lawson and Adam Arnold had a very exciting and posh, evening event to attend.... A summer Ball at St Hilda's College! Rachel looked beautiful in a long, purple patterned, dress and Adam wore a very smart, button up, shirt. The evening commenced with mocktails on the lawn served by waiters from a silver tray. They then had an opportunity to wander the college gardens looking at the herbaceous boarders and watch the river as the evening punts went by. They were then invited into the oak

panelled dining hall and shown to smartly decorated and laid tables. There were balloons, ribbons and lots of chandelier lights. Rachel could not stop looking round, smiling and giggling. Adam especially enjoyed the chance to dress up and have his picture taken in the photo booth. After speeches, dinner was brought to the tables. Adam and Rachel served themselves from an array of dishes. Rachel's favourite was the stuffed peppers and Adam enjoyed the chicken. For pudding, a platter of ice cream, sweets and fruits appeared with cones so that guests could build their own. Rachel and Adam composed themselves with great decorum throughout the event and were a credit to themselves, their families, Endeavour House and Endeavour Academy. Well done Adam and Rachel.

A huge thank you to Hannah Mortimer and Alice Barnes for taking our students.

# **Disabled and Companion Bus Passes**

As we approach the end of the term staff are busy planning activities for when the children return in September. These will continue to include a wide variety of community visits and we would appreciate it if every student could have both a Disabled and Companion bus pass entitling them and a member of staff to free travel within Oxfordshire.

Both passes are free and can be applied for in a variety of ways:

To apply for a Disabled bus pass you will need to provide a passport photo along with proof of Identity, address and disability.

Online applications via the following link:

https://www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/cms/content/disabled-persons-bus-pass

by phoning 0345 310 1111

or by visiting any Oxfordshire library or County Council building

Towards the end of the application please tick the box that says 'I would like to apply for a companion enhancement'.

Many thanks in advance for your support in enabling us to take learning outside the classroom.

## **Parents Evening**

We do hope to see as many parents as possible at parents evening on Tuesday 18 July. If you are not able to make this date, please call in in order that we can set up an alternative date and time for you. It is important that we are able to speak with all parents before the end of term.

#### **Active Kids Vouchers**

A huge thank you to all who have supported us in sending in vouchers.

#### Academic 2017 - 2018

As mentioned in previous newsletters the decision has been taken to finish education at 2.00pm on Friday's from Friday 08 September 2017.

I know that this may cause some difficulties for parents and apologise in advance for this. The school day has been re-structured to ensure that the statutory number of hours that are required in education are still being met.

Can parents please liaise with taxi companies in ensuring that they are informed of this change?

To confirm, school times from Tuesday 05 September (Monday 04 September INSET) will be:

Monday - Thursday: 9am - 3pm

Friday - 9am - 2pm

To finish on this week's quote:



We Endeavour to be the best......

Best wishes

Angela O'Rourke Principal