

11 September 2020

Dear Parents /Carers

We have now come to the end of our first full week and what a week it has been! I cannot thank you enough for the support and understanding that you have shown following the reopening of the school. It has been great to welcome back our students and they have been outstanding in terms of adjusting to the new ways of working within our school.

During the induction sessions, I have asked students to 'Think 5'.

1. Practice '**Respect to all, from all**', our school motto, in terms of doing what members of staff ask of them and behaving well.
2. **Speak up** – many students will feel anxious and concerned that they have forgotten so much and need support whilst others will be excited and ready to be challenged, so I am encouraging them to talk to their teachers
3. Ensure **good hygiene practice** in terms of handwashing, strongly encouraging use of face masks in corridors and communal areas and using the 'catch it, bin it, kill it' approach
4. Adopt **social distancing** particularly with staff and observe our approach to keep year groups separate
5. **Try your best** and adopt a 'can do' attitude. Your children have many talents of which many were exemplified during lockdown and we want to see more of these during this term.

I am aware that students have not been at school for a long time and need a period of adjustment, but Caludon Castle is a school that has set high standards in terms of uniform and behaviour. We want students to be proud wearing the Caludon uniform and therefore, can I ask that you check on our school website to confirm your child is wearing the correct uniform. If you are concerned then please talk to your child's year leader.

Communication with you is important, and our main route for this is through email and telephone, can I therefore ask that if your contact details change, that you inform our pastoral office via email on pastoral-attendanceoffice@caludoncastle.co.uk. Key letters that are sent to you are also available on our school website. We will continue to use Connect Ed and Firefly. Teachers are also planning lessons and activities in the event of any partial school closures, which of course, we hope will not happen.

We would love to be meeting with you face to face, but as you know at the moment, that is not possible in large gatherings and therefore we are producing virtual information events for each year group on our website. We will let you know when these become live.

On a personal note, I have made the decision that now is the right time to advertise for a new Headteacher for Caludon. I will still be based at Caludon and still very much around but I now need to focus on supporting Caludon through our Castle Phoenix Trust. As CEO, I can ensure that the ethos and values of our Trust which are at the heart of Caludon practice are preserved. The school is in a very strong position with everyone supporting each other and very well versed in leading learning. We have excellent staff. During the last six

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Headteacher
Mrs M Marr





months leadership has been strengthened further and our senior leaders are talented and committed to take the school forward. I am very proud of what we have achieved to date, and will continue to influence Caludon's journey. Caludon is a very special school and will always be part of me. I am so proud of our children and have been privileged to see them grow to become confident young adults.

I look forward to working with you this term and we will continue to strive to ensure that your children feel more confident with their learning and achieve well.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M Marr".

Mrs M Marr
Headteacher