

May 14<sup>th</sup> 2020

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we near the end of the eighth week of the school closure, I have been increasingly using the school motto of 'I can do it and I will do it' as a mantra, especially as once again I attempt the Couch to 5K running programme. The highs and lows are so much starker in the depths of a crisis and I think that as the many testimonies from those who lived through the Second World War show, it is resilience, a sense of humour and the comfort of your community that will ensure we come through the worst. This is reflected in the messages below, as we turn to you for support as well as to celebrate what happened on Founders Day.

### Founders and VE Days

You were challenged to carry out number of pledges and we can see many of you stood up to be counted. I am pleased to say we have raised about £400 for local charities, and the fund will stay open on ParentPay until next Friday, if you still wish to make a donation. Here are just a few of the pledges carried out over the weekend:

- On VE Day Nicola Harrison (Y 10) played The Last Post to the whole neighbourhood, followed by Reveille after a 2 minute silence.
- Emily Harris baked a cake for her GP friend. Emily has been ringing and talking to her elderly relatives, and asking her family in Jersey about their memories of the occupation and liberation, which did not happen until May 9th 1945.
- Sadie King (Year 7) visited her 85 year old Grandfather, respecting social distancing, to talk about his very clear memories of VE day.
- Rebecca Kirwan served others by trimming her mum's hair!! She has never cut hair before so it was a bit risky but she did a great job.



What a fabulous effort from everyone who took part in our 'WGS take on 75k day! 286.1 km were completed so well done! The PE department hopes you enjoyed the VE Day celebrations and 'We'll meet again!'



The Art Department showed their thanks in a very appropriate way.



Sheena Parikha (Year 8) has a sister who works in an NHS hospital in Kent so she baked brownies and cupcakes for the staff!



Dean Russell MP should have been coming to the school to talk to the GAPS (Government and Politics Society) instead he sent this message which I have decided to share with you

<https://www.veed.io/download/70ef1584-c09a-450f-8493-9daa83c6860c>

### **Supporting Girls and Families in need**

The survey of pupils regarding their access to IT has revealed that a small but significant number are not able to access devices such as laptops and tablets. The school was allocated 4 laptops for Year 10 girls in the government scheme and this is clearly not enough. If you, your family or your work place have any redundant technology that we could recondition and then give to these girls in need, I would be very grateful. Please email [s.cowling@watfordgirls.hert.sch.uk](mailto:s.cowling@watfordgirls.hert.sch.uk)

We are increasingly aware of families whose financial position has been severely affected by the pandemic. If you know of a family in difficulty or you yourself have been affected, please contact [s.cowling@watfordgirls.hert.sch](mailto:s.cowling@watfordgirls.hert.sch).

Best wishes,

Miss Tai

