



Wednesday 10th February 2021 - Community Assembly

Resolute



We have had to get used to a great deal of uncertainty over the past months. When will lockdown be eased? When will we be able to see and embrace our loved ones and friends? What will tomorrow bring? Will we return to the way things were? Beyond the immediate, the vital, the natural and the existential, there has been much political polarisation, with foul forces fostering and fomenting anti-democratic sentiment and practice.

It has been interesting and inspiring how, despite this uncertainty and discord, good and true actions have taken place, as they always have and always will. Captain Sir Tom Moore drew attention to the altruism and heroism of the NHS and a legion of people gave generously. Anti-racism activists galvanised progressive energy, asked fundamental questions and celebrated universal values. Marcus Rashford pointed to the obscenity of child hunger. And tens of thousands of citizens contributed their personal efforts to a collective wave of good neighbourly habits, widespread voluntarism, mutual aid and community projects.

We have seen countless examples of these centred values and affirming certainties in our own School community: industrious and courageous students; caring and creative staff; loving and supportive parents.

As we approach the February half-term break – awaiting news about the national plan for the reopening of schools, the outcome of the GCSE and A levels consultation and the roadmap for lockdown easing – we can, together, temper the unease of these uncertainties with the certitude of our shared commitment to your children (our students) and to each other as a staff, determined to deliver excellence in girls' education and empowerment. When it arrives, I hope you have a positive, restful and safe half-term break.

Mr Lawlor