

What a year this has been. It has had many highs and sadly some lows. This is a chance to reflect on the highs, and the many things that have gone on this year. Vertical tutoring, a new uniform, trips, workshops, arts events and sports... the list goes on.

First of all, congratulations to everyone who has received an award this year; they are all very well deserved.

We would like to say a huge well done to every single one of you, as so much progress has been made in all subjects. It has been so amazing to see so many of you supporting, and helping each other through stressful times, such as exams.

I'm sure you'll agree that the biggest change for most of us has been the introduction of vertical tutoring. Some were sceptical about this system. However, I think we can agree that it has been a success and we have seen lots of people from different year groups bonding, supporting each other and having a laugh in tutor time.

There have been so many opportunities this year, for example the many trips, especially to other countries, where students were able to experience other cultures and learn more about their subject topics. This has included Poland, Iceland, Belgium, London and France, just to list a few.

On Tuesday a group of students went to London to learn more about the Whitechapel area and the Jack the Ripper murders. We would like to thank all of the teachers who helped make this trip so interesting, and also all of the staff who have assisted in the other trips that have occurred this year. Another amazing experience this year was the Duke of Edinburgh expedition, congratulations to everyone who took part and completed the expedition - you should be very proud of yourselves.

There have also been numerous visitors to the school such as Olly Murs back in November who came for the launch of Children in Need. This was definitely a memorable event! Also various artists, authors, sports people and musicians, who came to speak to certain year groups and carry out interesting workshops.

Earlier this week, all of the new prefects spent the day training for our roles, and taking part in team building activities, learning how to make the school the best place it can be. All of us are around for you to talk to if you need any help with anything.

Can we also remind you that as we have many new year 7s coming up to the school in September, to be welcoming and helpful to them, as we all know

how it feels to be in their shoes. So if you see a student looking lost, please help them out or direct them to a prefect.

We would like to thank all of the teachers for supporting us throughout the year, and all of the tutors and co-tutors especially, as this role is new to the school. I'm sure you'll agree that they have done a phenomenal job in assisting within the tutor over the course of the year.

Thank you so much. We hope you have enjoyed your year at Notley and good luck for the future.

Next year will be full of great experiences and we are looking forward to working with everyone. Have a wonderful summer - we will see you all in September.

Thank you.