



# Tring School

CEO of the RLP: Mrs Susanna Collings BSc(Hons), MA, FRSA  
Head of School: Mrs Sally Ambrose BA(Hons), NPQH  
Mortimer Hill Tring Herts HP23 5JD



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Dear Parents and Carers

This is one of the first things that has felt normal in the last few months, sharing my end of year message with you reflecting and celebrating the students' achievements this academic year.

The year could easily be divided into two halves! Our first half was as busy as ever, with so many highlights. 155 Year 7 students ate birthday cake with me and shared their personal reflection on Tring School; 64 students signed the Headteacher's Commendation book with me; 813,043 Achievement points were awarded; Students visited The Christmas Truce and The Somme. Some students were lucky enough to ski in Austria. Theatre trips took place, as did sports events. Some students went to Madrid on an MFL visit and there were Geography and D&T outings too. 1494 students experienced a range of activities during Extended Learning Day; 1552 students visited our very own Careers Fair, we have had two fantastic music concerts and, of course, our unbelievable school play, 'Emil and the Detectives'.

It could easily feel like we don't have as much to celebrate, due to the abrupt closure of the school year. However, I will absolutely contest that thought. We could not be more proud of how all of our students, families and staff adapted very quickly to a very new way of learning and living. A diligent and tenacious approach ensured that the same high-quality learning and teaching was continued throughout the 14 weeks of online provision and this has to be commended. What really impressed me from a very early stage in lockdown was the adaptability and independence that all of our students were able to demonstrate in their learning.

I would also like to thank each and every one of you for your continuous support and encouragement for your children in their learning and also for the continuous praise and support shared with myself and staff throughout these difficult times. Occasionally, it can feel that we only hear from parents if they have a concern, however, I have to say as a parent body you have superseded all expectations in sharing your praise and gratitude for our staff through the lockdown. Your regular communication has really helped keep the motivation high.

One thing that students and families may not have appreciated is that our New Build Project has now started in earnest! The school will look completely different in September, with most of it protected by hoardings as it is demolished and a new Super School is built. The Desborough Hall and Beloe block remain and will house English, Media, Computer Science, MFL, Music and Drama. The Art and D&T areas have been modified, and now have main teaching classrooms for PRS and Business Studies. The gym has been converted into three classrooms for History which all remain temporarily. Science, Maths, Geography, SEN and one History room will all be

Tel: 01442 822303 Email: [tringschool@tringschool.org](mailto:tringschool@tringschool.org) [www.tring.herts.sch.uk](http://www.tring.herts.sch.uk)



in the Modular Village. The new school layout and classroom locations will be shared in full with students on their return in September.

Whilst we look back and celebrate so many different highlights, this is also a time where we say goodbye to staff who move onto new chapters and adventures in their lives. I am sure you will all join me in thanking the following staff for their commitment and passion for supporting our student body.

Mr Gielen and Mrs Parker will be moving to new schools as their fixed-term contracts come to an end; Mrs Lemonde is leaving to extend her KS5 teaching; Ms Van der Merwe is relocating to live by the sea; Mr Tagliani and Miss Saunders are both moving schools to be closer to home and Mr Morgan is moving to Northern Ireland and is due to become a daddy early in September.

Mr Otoo is leaving Tring School after 14 years of service and Mrs Hobson after a very impressive 26 years in the Maths department. They are both seeking further challenge and change as they move to new schools.

Behind the scenes, we are extremely fortunate to have a dedicated support staff and we would like to wish Mr Waqas and Mr Wall well in their new roles. And also, Mrs Perry from the Finance Department who retires after 23 fantastic years with us.

We really look forward to seeing all of the students return slowly and safely from September. Until then, I think we have all - students, teachers and parents, earned a well-needed rest. Students and staff should put their Chromebooks away for a while and turn their emails off!

Have a fabulous break, stay safe and well.

Kind regards

Sally Ambrose  
Head of School