

How do we maintain a sense of belonging?

House competitions

Historically, we have run House competitions on a fortnightly basis and during school closure we continued these virtually and on a weekly basis. There was a good amount of participation from students and staff. With school returning we have continued with our weekly competitions, once a fortnight they are pop up competitions around the school site (in bubbles!) and once a fortnight they are virtually.

2020 - 2021 House competitions (Released on a Wednesday, Deadline on a Friday OR FRIDAY POP UP)		
ERM 1 and 2	Ethos competition - aspiration and resilience	Competition decided by?
16 Sep 2020	Pint glass pong - film yourself attempting to get a small ball into a glass from 3 metres away - you don't need to be successful to win!	Number of entries
15 Sep 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
30 Sep 2020	Origami - make an animal out of paper	Most aesthetically pleasing
9 Oct 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
14 Oct 2020	Take a photo of 5 things beginning with the first letter of your name from within your house	Number of entries
23 Oct 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
4 Nov 2020	My view from here - choose a place in your house and draw what you see	Most artistic
13 Nov 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
18 Nov 2020	Live Lounge - film yourself singing a song	Most talented
27 Nov 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
2 Dec 2020	Complete a household job (hovering, washing up etc) and get some feedback from whoever you did it for	Number of entries
11 Dec 2020	FRIDAY POP UP	
16 Dec 2020	Pay it forward - do something for somebody else as we prepare for Christmas - take some clothes to the charity shop, make a donation to charity, donate to the foodbank	Number of entries

House councils

Student leadership is a strength of the school and that predominately comes through our House Councils. Although not possible to meet in person, the vertical House Councils meet virtually and discuss projects they want to lead on and prepare for their termly presentation to members of the senior team.

Parents' Forum

This came alive during lockdown! For several years, our parents' forum has met termly and had 5 or 6 committed parents. Since going virtual, we range from 16 to 34 parents. We met several times during school closure and have plan to do two per term from September.

Discussion points include:

- The Year 7 experience so far – what's gone well? What changes could we make to make things better?
- The virtual open evening – we are keen for you to be involved!
- COVID19 safety measures – any feedback or suggestions on staggered starts, entry and exit gates, break and lunchtime
- Tutor time evaluation:
 - Strengths
 - Weaknesses
 - Ways to make it better
- COVID19 safety measures – any feedback or suggestions on staggered starts, entry and exit gates, break and lunchtime;
- New reporting processes to replace face to face parents' evenings.