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Dear Parent / Carer

How quickly the end of the school year has come round again. Thank you for your continued support throughout the year for school and your daughter. A positive partnership between school and home, with shared priorities and principles, is key to ensuring each student's success and we appreciate immensely how closely you work with us. External validation of our school has reached new heights this year, with our Ofsted rating of 'Outstanding' and achieving GCSE results in 2016 that placed us in the top 10% of schools nationally, and we are confident that the future will be equally successful and exciting. We were, also, chosen in June to take part in the 'Be Kind' campaign that ITV's 'This Morning' programme is running. This involved the making of a short film about our anti-bullying work and the school culture and ethos, which they broadcast during one of their programmes last month. As always, the girls who were interviewed did a brilliant job of representing themselves and the school and we are very proud of them and all of our student leaders.

There have been so many wonderful achievements and experiences, in so many different areas of school life, throughout the year that it is not possible to write about them here and do them justice. I hope, therefore, that you are finding the Levenshulme Life magazines (published twice a year) helpful and interesting in keeping up with at least some of the activities that have taken place. Your daughter should have brought home a copy of the summer edition by the time you read this letter. Since our latest, summer edition was written many more, fantastic events have taken place – including Sports Presentation Evening, Race for Life and the Jo Cox Great Get Together, which was attended by Afzal Khan MP.

Electronic copies of the Levenshulme Life magazines can be viewed also on the school website, alongside the gallery of photos and reports from activities throughout the year. The **school website** is an excellent source of all sorts of information for families as well as students – such as curriculum content, ways to support your daughter in her learning, information about how to stay safe (on and offline) and the school calendar. Information about our new cashless payment system, **ParentPay**, is also available on the website for you to check in case you are unsure or have lost copies of letters that came out about it. Please remember that your daughter will not be able to use cash in school to pay for lunches from the start of September.

We have also recently hosted and run the second, now annual, Digital Urdu Teaching and Learning conference. It gives us great pride to be taking a leading role in the development of Urdu education and we intend to continue this work in the years to come. The range of trips, visits and competitions that the girls can take part in continues to grow and we are delighted to see how many girls are stepping up to the participation challenges and leadership responsibilities that are available. Around half of our students (across all year groups) have a leadership responsibility of some sort – which they take incredibly seriously. This is a remarkable number, well above what is usual in schools, and is an important part of the girls' preparation for the next stage in their lives and education.

We are very excited about the fabulous 'Book Bench' that has been created in school. The Book Bench project is part of the city-wide "Read Manchester" Campaign, which aims to promote reading and boost literacy levels in the Manchester area. Schools have designed and created benches with a reading theme, which are now on display throughout the city as a reading trail – we are very proud that ours is in a prime site at Manchester Cathedral. Our final design came out of a competition held in school and has a theme of women as heroes and role models in novels. If you have time over the summer, it would be a lovely family activity to complete the reading trail. When the event is finished, the bench will return to school to be used here and will be a beautiful addition to our school environment. Pictures will appear on the school website soon.

This letter is accompanied by a set of other communications – please take time to read through them all and share them with your daughter. These include information about attendance at school, summer activities in the city, and arrangements for the return to school in the autumn – students return on **Tuesday 5th September**. Your daughters are also being given information cards with useful ideas and contacts for staying safe over the summer and guidance about how to report any problems, such as hate crime, that they encounter outside of school. A leaflet about staying safe online and reporting hate crime is one of the documents that accompanies this letter.

When you are preparing for the new school year, please remember that jeans, leggings and skinny-cut trousers are not acceptable and that footwear should be plain black shoes. If boots are being worn they must be tucked under the trouser to look like shoes. We hope that all students wear their uniform with pride, as a mark of both their self-respect and the respect they have for school and their learning. I also want to, as always, add a plea for you all to remember to help us to protect the safety of our students and community when dropping off or collecting them. Please try to park further away from the school and encourage your daughter to walk that bit further so that the entrances/exits are less crowded and therefore much safer.

After such an incredibly positive year at Levenshulme, with so many great achievements and lots of fun, we are all looking forward to a well-earned break so that we can return in the autumn term fresh for the new academic year. With thanks, once again, for your continued support I hope that you and your family have a relaxing, happy and safe summer.

Yours sincerely



Dr Johan MacKinnon, PhD
Academy Headteacher

