

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022



Firstly a very Happy New Year. It has been lovely to welcome students back this week and as ever the students have come back keen to learn and adhering to the guidance given to help keep everyone safe. I hope you managed to see some of the end of term activities on the website, which as I said before Christmas were a real tonic for all of the members of the school community to finish a difficult term on such a positive note.

I am sure that this term will bring fresh challenges for us all and as ever I am grateful for the support of students, parents and staff so ensuring that we continue to provide the best possible opportunities for our students in these more difficult times.

Friday sees the start of the Prayer Space week in which all students are taken during their RE lesson to the Boulter Room. Here students are given a number of activities which encourage and allow them to stop and think, reflect and consider their thoughts and the thoughts of others. I am really pleased that we are able to run these sessions again which have always been so well received by our students. My thanks to Tim Warnock and the forge church for leading these sessions for us.

Sadly before Christmas I attended the funeral of Richard Boulter who was the Chair of Governors at Debenham High School between 1996 and 2014. This period saw a rapid expansion of the school and conversion to Academy Status. We are incredibly grateful for all of the time that Mr Boulter gave to the school in his time and for the impact he undoubtedly had on making Debenham the place it is today. Our thoughts and prayers are with Richard's wife and family.

With warmest wishes

Simon Martin

For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

**Jeremiah 29:11**