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Dear Parents/Carers of Year 7 students,

I wanted to take this opportunity to say how proud I am of the successful transition your child has made to NLS. Their positive attitude, resilience and work ethic has been noticed by a plethora of staff. It has been an absolute pleasure to support and guide your child this week. This can be both a physical and emotional journey and yet I have been able to observe the year 7s adjusting with ease. Your child has spent a considerable amount of time with their tutor this week. These staff members will help me by ensuring they play an active role in supporting your child with their academic and pastoral wellbeing. Your child's tutor will also be the first point of communication between yourselves and the school.

There are so many wonderful opportunities that await your child at NLS and I am hoping that they all continue to demonstrate the enthusiasm and confidence to get involved. I am extremely excited to be part of the journey your child is about to embark on. We will be there every step of the way to ensure they develop the skill set to thrive at NLS.

From Monday 20th September all year 7s will be taking part in some cognitive ability testing called CAT4. This will sit alongside information provided by primary schools and will be the basis for our target setting system in lieu of SATs scores from the summer. We will then set aspirational targets for each subject that I will give you further information about in due course. There is nothing your child can do to prepare for these assessments, so we are encouraging them not to worry at all but just to do their best. The tests will take place in 3 Computing lessons over the coming weeks as they are on the computers and will take between 20 and 50 minutes each to complete. If your child misses a test through absence we will pick them up later to catch-up.

Also taking place on the evening of the 20th is our year 7 information evening. This will be an opportunity for parents and carers to meet myself and other key members of the Senior Leadership Team. During the evening we will provide you with further information about life at NLS, frequently asked questions and aspects of our reporting system. It will be fantastic to meet as many of you as possible. There is no requirement for you to book a space to attend this event. On arrival please make your way to reception and you will be greeted there by a member of staff and student leaders.

Look forward to getting to know you all.

Mr Royle