

# **CLASS OF 2020**

**THE ENGLISH COLLEGE, DUBAI**





## Osman Idris

Dear class of 2020,

have been very fortunate to watch as you have grown and blossomed during our time together at EC. I am now confident that you are in the right place to take that next step on your journey. You have all felt as I have the care and love that surrounds us all here within the EC community. This community feeling is unique to EC and exists because of the people within it.

Our spirit and core values are something that you have modelled consistently at EC. I will miss our daily chats at the benches, constantly reminding you to wear your lanyards around your necks, not in your pockets and the rush to hide the Burger King delivery as I walk into the common room.

I hope that you will look back at your time at EC with the same fondness that I will remember my time as your Head of School.

Last but by no means least I hope you will remember:

- Accept truth and knowledge however it comes.
- Never be afraid to ask for help.
- Use your head and your heart.
- Love, Live, Laugh and be happy.

I know you will cherish the many beautiful memories that you have made together and I wish you every success in your future endeavours. Remember you will always remain a part of the EC family.

Thank you for everything it means more to me than you could ever imagine.



## **Mike Edmonds**

To The Class of 2020,  
Congratulations on completing your education at the English College! By the time you are reading this I have probably visited the majority of your homes and delivered EC's small parting gift. In the bag you will have various items but the one I want you to take with you and cherish the most is the face mask. I have put that mask in there to remind you about what happened this year, how life can all too easily change, and to take nothing for granted. It is my hope that the mask will hang in your university room or somewhere prominent and serve as a reminder to remember to live your life to the fullest. When you're deciding whether to get out of bed, go for a walk, meet friends or try something new, I want you to look at that mask and remember that those opportunities can be taken from you at any moment so don't put them off. On that mask it reads #ECStandards. I know those words have taken so many meanings through your time at the College. I want you to think about what #ECStandards means to you, hold onto that, and use it to help shape your future. To me when thinking about the Class of 2020, #ECStandards means well mannered, kind human beings with a little quirkiness who I'm proud to have known. I feel like the whole end to this year adds a little more to #ECStandards for you all. When Mr Idris and I set out to visit all your homes it wasn't to make the College look good, it was to give you the #ECStandards send off that you deserved and to show that we do truly appreciate each and every one of you. You will always be welcome at EC and we very much hope you keep in touch with us.

It wouldn't be right without leaving you with a meme to remember this year by:

**CONGRATULATIONS CLASS  
OF 2020**



Due to quarantine, I will only be telling inside jokes!!!

# **Senior Pictures and Quotes**



## Greta Aberg

"That's so funny!"  
\*Straight face\*



## Kyle Aguillo

My parents said dont  
make your senior  
quote too long or you  
will not have enough  
space



## Yasmine Ait Hamlat

Due tomorrow? More  
like do tomorrow



## Fatma Al Bwardy

The future is the home  
of our deepest fears  
and our wildest hopes  
- Owen Hunt



## Syed Ali

We were vibing until  
y'all started coughing



## Giulio Alius- Piedade

Love, peace and hope  
are the most valuable  
but intangible things  
everyone strives for in  
their lifetime



**Haima Alkafaji**

"I believe in the person I want to become" - Lana Del Rey



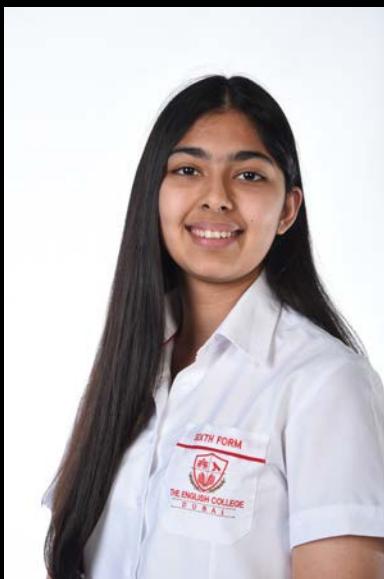
**Vania Azizi**

From being exam board guinea pigs to WW3, to COVID19 pandemic... what a year to graduate/not??



**Lia Beekhuijsen**

To whoever becomes rich and famous - I've always loved you <3



**Mahek Bhagchandani**

Own every move you make because, in the end, it's the experience you're here for!



**Hanisha Bhojwani**

Highschool is like a frying pan full of onion rings but not all turn out to be crisp and firm in the end, p.s not me



**Niall Blaynee**

Don't do anything I wouldn't do. But don't do anything I would do.



**Naya Bokelman**

:))))



**Thea Boylen**

Better out than in I  
always say - Shrek



**Vera  
Chistyakova**

"The Russian one"



**Marko Ciric**

I waited 5824 hours  
for a virtual piece of  
paper and a virtual  
handshake



**Robert Dennis**

"Today isn't going to  
be the last day of  
school." - Robert, on  
his last day of school



**Molly Doyle**

"I'm sure there's more  
to life than being really  
really good looking.  
And I plan on finding  
out what that is" - D.  
Zoolander



**Cayman Dunn**

Wiping out is an underappreciated skill



**Ryan Durand**

Let the good times roll...



**Noel Fitzgerald**

Bye, I'll miss you all



**Ali Ghalwash**

"If no one comes from the future to stop you from doing something, then how bad of a decision can it really be?" -Tumblr user



**Mahan Gholami**

What yearbook quote?



**Milan Gohil**

Trust me when I say I had a glow up since this picture



**Saier Hanif**

"You wanna lose small,  
I wanna win big"



**Aisha Hassan**

Embrace every  
moment



**Christopher  
Henderson**

Waking up for school  
is the second hardest  
thing in the morning



**Emile Hoek**

Fight me rn, bet you'll  
lose



**Rahma Hossam**

'all i know is a lot has  
happened to me and  
it's embarrassing'



**Rayhana Jamil**

life is an island  
getaway and we are all  
ugly villagers getting  
hit by god's net



## Harriet Jolly

Maybe she's born wiv it, or maybe just maybe... it's mental illness init



## Olivia Kelly

Never a failure. Always a lesson.



## Maral Majlessi

I hope the buliding is ready by the time I'm married.



## Heather McCormak

Sorry if my piercings ever offended you xxx



## Keenan McFadzean

If you ever think: "Am I going to regret this?" Before doing something, do it, before you can't.



## Mazin Mekki

My life revolves around one friends quote - "Do you have a plan? I don't even have a pla-"



## Mia Millman

Do what you have to do, until you can do what you want to do ;)



## Ben Morrison

Thank You



## Hiruni Mudannayake

I am ready to face any challenges that might be foolish enough to face me. - Dwight K. Schrute



## Fizza Muhib

Remember to always be yourself, unless you suck. Then pretend to be someone else.



## Nabiha Nawaid

Hannah Montana says that nobody is perfect, but yet, here I am.



## Charlotte Neville

Nothing says work efficiency like the last minute.



## Lily O'Neill

Miss Missons was right, no physical contact  
#classofcorona



## Luke Onuonga

No cap and gown but we still graduated.



## Sam Robson

'2020 Graduate'

Bless up.



## Samer Saboba

Our sole purpose in life is to fulfill Tom Nook's inescapable, never ending greed.



## Hadeya Salman

No one ever noticed my haircut.



## Nadeya Salman

The name is Salman, not Salmon. Please read it again.



## Ephrald Samuel

I had to put my grades up for adoption because I couldn't raise them.



## Taiba Shakeel

'2020 Graduate'



## Zahra Somji

School: a place you go to spend 70% of your day sitting on uncomfortable, plastic chairs.



## Zahra Taghva

Welcome to the real world, it sucks! You'll love it! - Friends

## Neha Thaleshwar

"You guys are spending so much time thinking of a Quote, here is mine"

## Emily Thompson

The chapter we started but didn't get to finish.



**Zoe Toby**

i'm jus vibing i guess



**Ria Vargis**

We're adults? When did that happen? And how do we make it stop!  
-Meredith Grey, Grey's Anatomy



**Nicholas  
Veljkovic**

Albert Einstein and Charles Darwin both married their cousins...  
The more you know.



**Coral Whistler**

It be like that sometimes.



**Michael White**

'2020 Graduate'



**Aiana  
Zhanaladin**

Asking him to pass salt at family reunion - that's how I shoot my shot

# **Students Who Left**



**Rand Abueideh**

"I don't have dreams, I have goals" - Harvey Specter



**Anna Akulovich**

"If someday my shoe falls and hits you on the head, I apologize in advance"



**Ahmed Ali**

Miss Duncan still doesn't believe I left



**Reuf Alkinaki**



**Yousef Balah**



**Ziad Elboraie**

"Pour that bubbly"



**Alexander  
Jensen**



**Zeeshan Khan**

I don't know how I even made it this far



**Gurneet Lall**

8 years later and I'm still waiting on that growth spurt



**Helia Naddafi**



**Oyindamola  
Nwosisi**



**Syed Shahzeyb  
Ahmed**

During your darkest days, you truly find out who stands with you and who doesn't



## Nojoud Taimour

"I look cuter in person"



## Lili Copping

Trust the timing of  
your life

# **Student Awards**

# Valedictorian



**Lia Beekhuijsen**



**Nicholas Veljkovic**

# Teacher's Pet



**Yasmine Ait Hamlat**



**Mazin Mekki**

# Teacher's Worst Nightmare



**Harriet Jolly**



**Michael White**

# Class Clown



**Maral Majlessi**



**Marko Cric**

# Most Likely to Be Late to Graduation



**Haimaa Alkhafaji**



**Saier Hanif**

# Most Likely to be President



**Yasmine Ait Hamlat**



**Ben Morrison**

# Most Likely to Win a Nobel Prize



**Zahra Somji**



**Marko Ceric**

# Most Likely to be Your Boss



**Maral Majlessi**



**Ben Morrison**

# Best Candidate for the CIA



**Maral Majlessi**



**Cayman Dunn**

# Most Likely to be on a Reality TV Show



**Aisha Hassan**



**Giulio Alius Piedade**

# Most Fashionable



**Naya Bokelman**



**Saier Hanif**

# Life of the Party



**Harriet Jolly**



**Michael White**

# Most Likely to Know/Spill the Tea



**Heather McCormack**



**Nicholas Veljkovic**

# Biggest SIMP



**Emily Thompson**



**Syed Ali**

# Most Opinionated



**Naya Bokelman**



**Giulio Alius Piedade**

# Most Gullible



**Coral Whistler**



**Syed Ali**

# Most Likely to Never Move out of Their Parent's House



**Harriet Jolly**



**Michael White**

## Clumsiest



**Naya Bokelman**



**Niccholas Veljokvic**

# Best Bromance



**Cayman Dunn**



**Noel Fitzgerald**

Most Likely to be an Old Cat  
Lady



**Lia Beekhuijsen**

# Teacher Awards

# Most Like Mum



**Fiona Davidson**

# Most Like Dad



**Mike Edmonds**

# Most Likely to be Mistaken For a Student



**Charlotte Bagnall**



**Daniel Harrison**

# Most Likely to Appear on TV



**Chloe Browne**



**Osman Idris**

# Teacher Messages

# **Messages From Form Tutors**



## Miss Tribak

Dear Year 13,

Never in a million years did I ever envisage that I would be sitting in my apartment during lockdown and writing this message to you all. This message is for all the lovely students in Year 13 whom I got well acquainted with when I first joined EC in 2018. I have really enjoyed getting to you all and especially more so with my 13A tutor group this year. I have always said this and continue to say this, and that is always be true to yourself, continue to work hard and the rest will fall into place. It has been a real pleasure working with you guys and hand on my heart I wish you all the best for the future. Remember that success means different things to different people, don't ever let anyone convince you that you are not capable of achieving what your mind is telling you. Always remember that your feet must remain firmly on the ground when you get there, all the best.

Love Ms Tribak



## Miss Hibbert

Dear 13A, I wish you all so much luck in the future! It was so lovely to be your form tutor last year! Thank you for being such a warm and welcoming group and introducing me to EC! I am sure each of you will go on to have every success in the future



## Mr Humphreys

One unnamed person in the group who incidentally may be head boy told me to write 'Mazin changed my life for the better', but I have never been a good liar. In truth all of you have brightened up my morning every day for the last two years, I couldn't have asked for a better group of people to spend the first 15 minutes of my day with! Thank you for putting up with the endless dingbats, flags of the world and brain teasers each morning, although I'm sure you secretly enjoyed them. I want to wish you the best of luck in whatever paths you choose to follow in the future, and make sure you keep in touch!



## Miss Duncan

Dear Year 13

I wish you all the best in your future endeavors - off you go to make new memories and build new relationships - but make sure you remember your time at EC fondly. Remember to take lots of pictures and actually print them to look back on and make sure you always save a % of any future pay cheques!



## Miss Browne

Dear 13E,

Where do I begin? Firstly, thank you for being such an incredible tutor group for the last two years and making my life as your tutor not only remarkably easy but so so enjoyable. I can't praise you all highly enough and am proud and privileged to have gotten to know you all and been able to guide you in your transitions into life beyond EC (not that I can take much credit as you are all such mature, capable and proactive individuals!).

I have no doubt that you will all go on to achieve great successes and am so excited for your next chapters and what they might bring. Thank you for all of your kindness, openness and making me laugh every day! It really has been my pleasure.

This isn't the send-off you all deserve, but I hope that you feel proud of yourselves and all that you have achieved at EC and celebrate suitably when the opportunity arises!

Please stay in touch and I wish you all the very best of luck for the future,

Miss Browne



## Miss Beacon

I wish all of 13D well on their new adventures in life. Whichever path you are planning to take next, make memories and live life to the fullest

# **Messages From Subject Teachers and EC Staff**



## Mr Talsania

Only a select few of you were taught by me but I thoroughly hope you enjoyed doing some crazy experiments, learning how to make explosions and being amazing chemists! I wish you the best of luck in the future and I hope you stay young at heart and enjoy what life has in store for your next chapter!



## Miss Murphy

This is such an exciting time for you all. Make the most of every opportunity you are presented with, immerse yourself in culture, make lifelong friends, make mistakes, learn new skills, explore, find your passions and most importantly.... turn up to the 9AM lecture! Although it is sad to see you go, I am extremely proud of you all and look forward to hearing about how you have settled into university life. Break a leg class of 2020!



## Mr Moran

Dear Year 13 Computer Scientists,  
Reminder 27, please send me your completed project code and design ASAP. Thank you for a thoroughly enjoyable two years, your hard work and dedication to the subject has been commendable. If you only take away one thing from this course, please let it be the new way of how to sing the alphabet. From Craig n Dave.



## **Miss Fazalan and Dr Dusse**

A journey of a thousand miles begins with a single step' - wishing you all happiness, success and prosperity with every single step!



## **Cherryl**

Wishing the class of 2020 all the best with your further education and future careers.

Also a special thanks to all the Year 13 Prefects who helped with the school tours this year and demonstrated how exceptional our students are.

GOOD LUCK, DREAM BIG AND AIM HIGH!

Cherryl (Admissions)



## **Mr McMahon**

Some of you guys who were "lucky" enough to have been taught Maths by me (you know who you are) should know that, I am extremely privileged and honoured to have taught you. We had many highs and some lows together, we worked hard in the classroom and had a good laugh outside it. I will never forget you guys!

I wish you all the best of luck in the future.

Mr McMahon



## **Miss Hibbert**

Dear Year 13 politicians, it has been an absolute pleasure to teach you all this year! I wonder whether we have any future prime ministers or presidents in our group?! Thank you for making our lessons so interesting, it has been so much fun to hear about your views on the world and watch you develop into young adults with such interesting opinions! I wish you lots of luck in the future!



## **Mrs Green**

To my Dear Year 13 Drama and Theatre group.  
I am so proud of the students, performers, directors and theatre makers you have become. Never forget all that you have achieved inside and outside of the drama studio over the past two years. I have no doubt the creativity, commitment, resilience and passion you have shown will help you in life more than you realise now. "A diamond is a lump of coal that did well under pressure," and to me you are all diamonds. Take your time, be hungry, be grateful, don't compare yourself to others, work hard and always follow your dreams.  
Keep in touch, Mrs Green



## **Miss Duncan**

I will always forever wonder where exactly is Ahmed Ali?



## Miss Braban

What can I say Year 13? It's been such a pleasure to work with you guys these past two years, I'm sorry we didn't get to say goodbye properly. I'm also heartbroken I didn't get to see what you all chose for the buffet at prom! Though I'm silently relieved I managed to escape prank day. Thank you for being your hilarious and wonderful selves you will be sorely missed!



## Mr and Mrs Sims

Hi Year 13, it's your favourite married couple Mr and Mrs Sims. We would like to say well done and thank you to you all. You have been a great year group, full of incredible students and human beings.

Mrs Sims: "Well done and good luck to you all, special shout out to my lovely form, we may not have been the most organised but we had the most fun! Good luck to all the linguists and each and every one of you"

Mr Sims: "I will always regret not playing your year group at football, you had a lucky escape there. You are an excellent year group, full of personality and brains, this is even true for the economists. Remember to always believe in yourself and always make sure you are having fun. As if it's not fun/you don't enjoy it/take some happiness from it, then why do it? Big well done to Yasmine, Mazin and their team of school leaders and year group members, you have all been excellent role models to the young students."

GOOD LUCK!

Jen and Daryl Sims





## Miss Kalia

Miss Kalia To the Year 13 Graduating Class of 2020  
There is nothing more rewarding to myself than to have had the opportunity to watch all of you learn and grow over the last few years – especially for my 11C, now graduating 13C. You all have shown how amazing you are, with the biggest hearts and greatest personalities. Your future will be bright and you can accomplish anything that you set your minds to. You will always hold a special place for myself – from my first lessons with you, Form Times, meetings in the hallways, trying to check up on each of you with things... and until your last days at EC. Thank you for putting a smile on my face every day. I am immensely proud of each of you! Do keep in touch and come back to visit.



## Mr Stileman

I'm not going to wish you good luck. Make your own. I am instead going to give you some unsolicited advice: Nothing happens for a reason, your life is influenced by so many external factors beyond your own choices that it is about as random a journey as any organism can take. Dismiss the comparisons you make to others and avoid judging success in monetary terms, pursue your passions and ultimately the money won't matter. Do good. Don't waste time searching for happiness, instead seek joy in simple things. Life is tough, it is also hilarious. Nothing is fair and the World has expectations that you do not need to meet, so be kind to yourselves and laugh as often as you can without causing too much offence. Find catharsis in a good cry. Be kind to others and support those less fortunate. Say yes more often than no. Push and challenge yourselves physically, intellectually and emotionally, but also practice the art of curling up and doing absolutely nothing guilt free. It's admirable to "achieve", but it also feels pretty good eating an entire tub of ice-cream at 3pm having barely left the sofa or your pajamas. Mr Stileman.



## Miss Davidson

To all of my wonderful Mathematicians, from 2014 up to now, it has been a privilege to get to know each and everyone of you and I wish you all the best of luck in achieving all of your dreams.

To my current year 13's, I've missed you all so much throughout distance learning.... how on earth will I cope without seeing you each week when I get back into school?! My classroom won't be the same without your visits. I'm going to miss our Cake Breaks, our Friends chats, our Quizzes, our Laughs and of course all of your brilliant Maths.

Although I want to keep you, it's time for the rest of the World to meet you!

Good Luck! & Keep in touch!

Miss Davidson

xxx



## Mr Glover

The year 13 cohort is not a year group that I know very well. I have only had the pleasure to teach a very small number of you and obviously the most musically or artistically creative students are those who have caught my eye. Rayhana and Sam and their band Skeptic will hold such fond memories for me, so many memorable performances outside of school and I hope all year 13 students can continue to support them. Also drama students have provided a source of amusement (Hatter and Rabbit especially) both in rehearsals and while performing live and been a pleasure to be involved with during our Alice production, so much talent which the world deserves to see. Those of you who play musical instruments please continue to do so, it is a gift you can turn to in those testing times which you will inevitably encounter at university or the next chapter of your lives. Stay positive always, push for your dreams and do not give up until they come true. Wishing you all the very best.



## Mr Handuleh

Year 13 Physics class 2020

It has been an honour and a privilege to teach you physics for the past two years. Your energy, sense of humour and dedication to your studies has made every lesson a joy for me to teach. I thank you and salute you for how you allowed me to grow as a teacher. The course was difficult and at times frustrating but you never lost hope or gave up. You applied yourselves and grew in confidence as you tackled and conquered the toughest of topics. You all have a bright future ahead of you. Don't let anyone tell you what you can and can't do. I hope you have the courage to believe you are deserving of everything you desire, that you are capable and worthy of creating the kind of life that sparks something within you. Challenge yourself, do your best the sky is the limit!

Your proud teacher

Mr Handuleh



## Miss Bagnall

I really wanted to start with some inspirational quote but I thought that may be hypocritical after the amount of times I've told Mahan off for copy and pasting in his presentations. I'm devastated that we haven't been able to give you the send off that you deserve, though I wish you could have seen the relief on my face when I realised I got away with no prank day from you guys! I want to say a special thank you to the best sociology class I have EVER had, you've been amazing, you always pretended to laugh at my jokes and you made my job so easy and enjoyable. It's been a joy to teach you all and I really will miss you. You must come and see me next year and tell me all about your university antics, I'm so proud of you all and I can't wait to see where your journey takes you. Never forget that when times are tough you can always 'just buy a house'.



## Mr Edmonds

Well Bio Beauties, how do I even sum up the last few years?! I'll go with this:

Yr 11 was Testosterone girl, Oestrogen Boy, Pablo, The Faeces Killer, No I never! Pennywise emails, DITTIES!!!! A Level was Sunday Fight Watch, Broken water bottle. Awful comebacks, Hand drawn Albert pic, Mr Sir, 'Sick' days, Capri Suns, Cats, Cake, Moaning, Incredible teacher memes, McFlurry and Apple Pie AND a huge amount of laughs!

These are just a few of the incredible memories you have left me with! You're wonderful and I will miss all of you! Please stay in touch. Good luck!!!



## Miss Baalham

Dear Year 13,

Congratulations on finishing Year 13...what a truly great group of young people you are! You have overcome such a range of challenges and you should be really proud of yourselves!

To the lovely students I taught during my time at EC: you are all such wonderful, articulate, enthusiastic, kind, hardworking individuals! You are some of the best students I have ever taught and I wish you every success in the future.

Keep in touch; I love hearing about how you are getting on!

Best wishes,

Miss Baalham

## Mr Harrison

No prank day? Shame.





## Mr Howse

"No matter how many years pass nor how many times I jump on the skateboard to demonstrate the conservation of momentum to pupils, I always fall off. Many of you have seen this first hand. I hope, amongst the giggles, you may have realised that sometimes its not about how many times you fall off your life's path, its about the integrity you showed in how you tried to get back up and on it after. It might look funny to others, it might appear ugly; but none of that tells the truth of what was in your heart when you acted. Only you will know that; and its only yourself you will have to justify your rise, fall and rise to afterwards. Forgive yourself for your failures, rejoice in your successes, and above all: if Deadpool ever kidnaps and poisons someone you know, don't ask a Physicist for help. Mr Howse."



## Mrs Aziz

The first thing I'd like to say to you guys is ...you seriously lucked out! I mean, No exams! But really, the two pieces of advice I always like to tell year 13s before they leave is one, live your life to the fullest, and by that I mean be adventurous, and two always have courage to stand up for what is right, do not be a bystander, if you stay quiet, you are just as guilty.



## Mrs Hafiz

I'm going to miss this year group! Full of students that drove me crazy, left things till the last minute, mocked my brummie accent, tried to steal my cookies and thought my son would be named after them! I'm so thankful that prank day was virtual! Miss you all and wishing you all the best! Mrs Hafiz



## Mrs Haque

To my Year 13 BioLovelies,  
All of you have flourished into some very mature young adults, so full of confidence, presence and certainty.  
Please know that it is more than ok to not feel like you're on top of everything all of the time. It is more than ok to have doubts. It is more than ok to feel a little unsure sometimes too. You will soon learn that many adults feel like this more often than you realise (we wear our masks well and not just the viral ones (sorry my jokes are so poor in comparison to "Mr Funny Man Edmonds"), but as you evolve, you'll learn the master of trying, having faith, building grit, resilience and putting your time into the things that really matter. It's amazing that so many of you show those traits already. Many of you have been an inspiration to me!

I will miss seeing your faces coming into my lab, seeing your smiles, hearing your greets and well...just seeing you! You made me feel so welcome when I joined EC, you made me feel at home and so comfortable. Thank you so much for giving that to me.

I wish this situation could have been different, and that your last year with us in EC could have turned out the way that you would have liked. I'm sorry that we couldn't give that to you. Your health is our number one priority and we always want to keep you safe in the best way we know how. Sadly that meant that we couldn't see you... I hope that this means that one day you'll come back and say hi, and tell me all of the amazing things that you've been up to. I'd really like that.

You are all going to grow into some pretty awesome individuals, leading the way and will continue to mark your legacy. You already have....

I wish you all so much love, protection and peace.

I will miss you immensely year 13 Biologists.

Love you always, stay in touch please!

Mrs Haque (Waheeda)

**Some  
memories...**

















