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Head teacher: Mr P Blackburn
Lake Road, Coniston, Cumbria LA21 8EW
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Dear new Year 7 JRS students,

First of all, a massive welcome to John Ruskin School!

As you prepare for your transition to JRS, a range of emotions, including excitement, nervousness, and curiosity is expected. Your new chapter offers significant opportunities for personal growth, academic learning, and forming new friendships. As the current head students at JRS, we have spent five fulfilling years here ourselves and we can assure you that JRS provides an ideal environment to achieve your goals.

One of the best things about JRS is that it's a small school. You won't be a face in a crowd here. Everyone knows everyone. Whether you come from a small village school or a big one, you will find that the older students and teachers are always ready to help you find your way if you get lost - and by the way, don't worry, you'll get used to the layout in two days flat - we all did!

Our top tips for new Year 7 students:

- get involved - whether it is football at break, table tennis at lunchtime, taking part in a school production, music club or trip to the theatre
- try something new - as you experience JRS you'll do things like canoe days, Young Firefighters or D of E - doing something new is often the fastest way to make friends
- ask questions if you're unsure about your timetable or how the canteen works, just ask someone in the older years and never be shy about asking questions in lessons, being curious can only help you get better at the subject

You've got an amazing journey ahead of you. You'll get to do things here that you won't find at other schools like taking advantage of the incredible Coniston landscape. You might even end up starring in one of our amazing school productions like Matilda or Shrek or scaling a mountain to achieve your silver D of E plus many other life changing experiences like ski trips, trips to France and our annual Fell Race. Remember as our school vision says: **BE YOU** and enjoy yourself throughout your time at John Ruskin school. We hope in five years you will be writing your letter to the new Year 7 just like we are.

For us, John Ruskin School has not just been a school but has been a family and through this we have gained a sense of belonging and we hope you gain this too in your time at John Ruskin school.

Enjoy your summer holidays, get plenty of rest, and get ready for September!

Best of luck,

The head student team 2025 -2026

Herbie, Jack, Lauren and Molly