

14 January 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

I would like to start my letter by thanking the whole school community for their attitude and work over the last 2 weeks in our return to school. The preparation undertaken by staff to ensure testing was in place at the start of term was vital in ensuring as safe a return as possible, alongside the engagement of pupils with the testing programme. Both of these aspects have shown the collaborative and caring nature of our school community. Our testing on site went very well and did identify a number of asymptomatic cases, helping to keep us all safe.

Covid

Whilst we are currently experiencing higher levels of staff absence than usual, we are still managing to run school without making any major adaptations. Although we have not had to combine any classes or undertake remote learning for specific year groups up until now, please do be aware that this is part of our contingency plan if we do not have adequate staff levels at any point in the future. We will continue to review all our safety measures in line with Public Health and DfE guidance. The key points in place currently are as follows:

- Please make sure your child has a mask for use at all times inside the building (this measure is to be reviewed by the Government on 26 January).
- Don't send your child to school with any Covid symptoms.
- Use regular Lateral Flow Testing twice a week and register results with the NHS; a new delivery of test kits has just arrived and will be handed out to pupils next week.
- Continued increased ventilation in classrooms, so please make sure your child has a coat to keep them warm.

Canteen

We have been working alongside our Caterers, Chartwells, to develop the food offer in school. Pupil voice has been an integral part of this work over the last 12 months and thanks to the work of our pupil ambassadors, we have seen improvements in both the range and the quality of food on offer. There are more changes to come over the next few months and Chartwells are running a promotion next week on Thursday 20 January to encourage as many pupils as possible to visit one of the three food outlets we have in school to see and taste what is on offer. All the usual food and drink will be available on that day plus a themed offer of kathi rolls – see menu below. In addition, **all pupils who purchase any item from any of the food outlets will be entered into a raffle with a prize of an Amazon Show 8!**

LOTTERY FUNDED

Key dates

Tuesday 18 January – Year 10 Parents' evening (telephone appointments) Wednesday 2 February – Pupils finish at 12.05 pm: Mandatory training for staff Friday 18 February – Break up for half term at 3.15 pm

Healthy Schools



Monday 28 February – Staff INSET day – School closed to pupils Tuesday 1 March – Pupils return to school at 8.40 am Friday 8 April – Break up for Easter holidays at 12.05 pm Tuesday 8 March – Year 9 Options & Parents' evening Monday 14 March – Year 11 Mock Exam fortnight begins.

I do hope you and your family are all well and look forward to meeting more of our parents and carers in person over the next term.

Yours faithfully

D Matt

Miss K Slater Headteacher



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