

18<sup>th</sup> September 2020

## Newsletter – Week 3

Dear Parent / Carer,

I hope you are all well and keeping safe. We have had a really good week at school and it has been fantastic to see our students working hard in lessons and adapting brilliantly to our new routines. I have to reiterate again just how outstanding the students have been.

On Thursday evening, we delivered our first virtual Parents' Evening through 'Streamyard' which went live on YouTube. This was our annual Year 7 Parents' Welcome Evening where we discuss what has been happening, how the students have settled, and address any questions that parents have. We were really pleased that the evening went without any hiccup! We had presentations from Mr Quesnell our Year Leader for Year 7, Head of Key Stage 3 English Miss Tahmazian and Head of Key Stage 3 Maths Miss Shah. We had a fantastic turnout on line and a huge thank you for your support and being with us last night. Please do not worry if you missed the event, a link is available on our website.

As we work through the new 'normal' it is clear that virtual evenings and presentations will become normal practice. We will ensure that early notification is sent out prior to any virtual meetings so that we can assist you if there are any difficulties.

I know I speak for all of us at school when I say how excited I am to welcome back our Year 11 on Monday. We have tried to ensure that our Year 11 students continued with their school timetables, accessing lessons that were either live or pre-recorded. I have received great feedback from our teachers in how hard they have been working which has been really pleasing. Guidance seems to be changing weekly and the latest advice would now be to **not** send a whole year group home, but identify the small cohort that may have been in contact with anyone who has tested positive. Please rest assured that we speak regularly with the authorities and Public Health England following any updates that we receive to ensure that we are maintaining the highest standards of safety possible.

I do not recall ever in my life checking the weather forecast as much as I have been in the last few weeks! We have been very lucky indeed as our year group bubbles are all allocated outdoor spaces for school breaks.



POWERED BY



*Principal: Russell Denial*



We are conscious that the weather will turn against us in the near future and in light of this, we have been contacting companies for marquee/large outdoor coverings for various areas of the school so that students are able to be outside and under cover. If anyone could help us with this it would be greatly appreciated – please do get in touch! Please also ensure that your child also has suitable items for outdoor breaks such as a coat or umbrella.

We have been developing our Remote Learning Policy and Guidance for Parents this week and will publish this to you all in the coming weeks. We want to be prepared for any future issues that may arise and want to ensure that teaching and learning continues for our pupils in the best way possible under any circumstances.

Following last week's letter, I want to pass on my thanks for the kind words that many of you sent in to us. The support we are receiving has been fantastic. Now, already this is the end of Week 3 of the academic year. Just looking ahead, only 36 more school weeks until the summer holidays... time flies!

Have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'R Denial', written in a cursive style.

**Mr R Denial**  
**Principal**

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