

11th December 2020

Newsletter – week 14



Dear Parent/Carer,

I think that is fair to say that since my letter to you all last Friday, we have faced a number of challenges this week and I know that some of you have raised your understandable concerns with us. Although we have had to ask two year groups to self-isolate as well as one of the designated transport services, the positive cases of COVID-19 are not related and there is not an 'outbreak' at our school. I spent some time last weekend talking to the Department for Education as well as Public Health England discussing our school, to ensure that we followed all advice and guidance to ensure that the rest of the school remains safe.

As you will now be aware, our school like many others, are having an additional training day on Friday 18th December which is the last day of term. This day will be used for additional staff training, policy updates and preparation for the New Year.

All schools are asked to be 'on call' for the first 6 days of the Christmas break to support families in the event of a positive case and this will run from Friday 18th until Wednesday 23rd December for track and trace. If we are notified of any issues, we will be in contact with families urgently as we all move towards our Christmas bubble preparations. In the event, please contact covidupdates@chalfonts.org so that we can notify anyone that we need to. There will be a number of us that will be monitoring this dedicated email regularly throughout this period.

Last night we continued with our virtual events with the 6th Form Music evening. The talent on show was fantastic and an amazing eclectic range of music was performed. I often visit the 6th formers whilst they are in their music lessons and do my best to sometimes join in. I have to say that the progress that has been made by these talented students is outstanding. I only hope that in the not too distant future, we can pack the hall once again and give them a proper audience.

I must give a special mention to our Year 11 students. They started their mock exams on the 30th November and now are having to complete the majority of them online due to self-isolating. Thankfully these finish early next week, but it means that there is a large number of the year group that will have missed nearly seven full weeks of face to face education. We will support them all in their return in January with some follow up assessments and intervention to make sure that they are all ready for their exams in the summer.



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University of
Roehampton
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Principal: Russell Denial

We really do not know what is around the corner, but for Scotland and Wales to be using centre assessed grades and not having any exams seems to be incredibly unfair on our young people.

The last day of term for students is Thursday 17th December and this will be a normal full school day that concludes at 3.05pm. I will continue to let you know of any developments or news that I receive.

I hope you all have a restful, safe and peaceful weekend.

Yours faithfully,



Mr R Denial
Principal

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