

5<sup>th</sup> February 2021

## Newsletter – week 20



Dear Parent/Carer,

I hope you have had a good week and are all keeping well. It is strange to believe that we are now more than halfway through this academic year. The memories of welcoming back our students in September really doesn't seem that long ago, but we do know that we have at least three more weeks of remote learning ahead until students can return on 8<sup>th</sup> March at the earliest.

Yesterday, I received a letter from Tesco recognising the outstanding work of three of our students who recently took part in the Tesco Property Virtual Work Experience Programme. They wrote to me in recognition of their fantastic work, dedication and enthusiasm. They attended a number of workshops and career talks which helped develop their employability skills. In the letter I received, they were described as an absolute credit to our school so I would like to say a huge thank you and well done to Sonny Dalston, Oliver Johnson and Kai Mayes. Tesco also sent us a gift card - so on your return, I will make sure we have a conversation in how we can use their kind gift! Absolutely fantastic work gentlemen.

Last week I touched upon the difficulties we are all facing in regard to home school as well as working from home as I know that many of you are now doing. The work of some of our students continues to be excellent and we would all like to thank you for your continued support. I know that juggling both is a real challenge at times, but as parents, I think it is important to take a step back and look at what has been achieved throughout the last five weeks. We are all in the same storm and working our way through this as families in really difficult circumstances. When half term arrives next week, please make sure that there is a break from school work and you can enjoy time as a family without the pressure of Show my Homework or Google Classroom!

This week we took the decision to postpone Year 12 taster day on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> March which had already been postponed from February. As it may be the first week back into school, having face to face time with teachers is the priority. We are still planning to do the taster day for our Year 11 after Easter and our Year 11 interviews are still scheduled from the week commencing 15<sup>th</sup> March where the best advice and discussion on routes into our 6<sup>th</sup> form or college will take place.



*Principal: Russell Denial*

Due to the ever-changing policy, I want to highlight a few key dates for you in the coming weeks of school:

### **March 2021**

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – the hopeful return of students to school

Mon 8<sup>th</sup> – Y13 mock exams begin (8<sup>th</sup> – 16<sup>th</sup>)

Mon 15<sup>th</sup> – Y11 progression interviews begin

Thurs 25<sup>th</sup> – Y7 parents evening (virtual)

### **April 2021**

Thurs 1<sup>st</sup> – last day of term – school finishes at 1:20pm

### **Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> – Fri 16<sup>th</sup> - Easter Holidays**

Fri 2<sup>nd</sup> – Good Friday & Mon 5<sup>th</sup> – Easter Monday

Mon 19<sup>th</sup> April – students return to school

Mon 26<sup>th</sup> – Y12 progress exams begin

I will of course add to this that should there be any changes, we will be in touch as soon as possible.

Whatever your plans are for the weekend, please stay safe and once again, we will be on snow-watch for Sunday. Maybe I spoke far too soon a few weeks ago!

Yours faithfully,



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

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