

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." Matthew 11:28

12 March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers and students

I hope you will agree that it has been wonderful to physically return to school this week and cease with remote learning and home schooling. Hopefully, we will not return to this again.

The students have been great this week in settling back into their school routines alongside daily testing in our ATS. The testing has gone exceptionally well, and we have processed over 1600 tests with no positives. This, and the additional mask/face covering control measures has been really well received by everyone and just adds to the sense of working together to get through this, keep school open and hopefully get to Easter free from the virus and doing our bit to ensure that future plans to lift restrictions do happen.

I must acknowledge, and I am sure as parents and carers you have noticed it too, that the students (and the staff) are exhausted. We cannot underestimate how hard it has been for everyone to return to the daily routines of school life having taught, learnt or been at home for over 11 weeks. It will take time to recondition ourselves to these routines and challenges and the students will have earned a very well-deserved rest and lie in this weekend. I urge you to let them have one! Matthew's quote at the top of my letter has perhaps never been more poignant.

Y9 Parents Evening and KS4 Options

Last night we held another very successful virtual parents evening. Thank you to all the parents and carers who attended and for the positive emails about your experience. I recognise that there was much discussion about KS4 options so please do be reminded that the deadline for submitting your option form is Monday 22nd March 2021.

Home Testing

Next week we will complete all second and third rounds of LFD testing in school and students who have been tested in school will be sent home with two home testing packs from Tuesday (see below). Each pack contains all the materials to complete 3 tests (so you will have 6 test kits in total). All the necessary materials and guidance is in the packs, although I have been advised that you should discard the blue leaflet in the boxes and use the separate guidance booklet that we will send home with your child.

We advise that you should support your child to administer their tests on Sundays and Wednesdays, students aged 11 are required to have direct parental support. You need to report the result to NHS track and trace at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result. We also ask that you report the test result(s) to school, and we will send a link next week for this. As ever all documentation and guidance can be found at <https://www.hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk/Page/Detail/covid-19>



Standards and Expectations

Thank you for your ongoing support with helping us to maintain high standards of uniform and equipment. Please do let Mr Barratt know, at gbarratt@hagleyrc.worcs.sch.uk, if you have a specific uniform issue that you are struggling to resolve, until such time as shops open in full, so that we can support you and your child.

Uniform Swap

I am also very conscious that you may have uniform that has been outgrown but still in excellent condition having hardly been worn this academic year. If you do have items that you are happy to donate to us, we would like to try and run a swap scheme that might help in the current times. Please send any items for donation to reception.

Transport Tender

I previously advised that we would be opening a new tender process for our school transport. This process is now underway and there will be a new contract in place for September 2021. I will be sure to keep parents/carers informed about this.

Lenten Charities

A reminder, further to Mr Miastowski's letter that this Lent we are supporting the SVP, MIND and CAFOD. Friday 26th March will be a non-uniform day for MIND and donations can be made via ParentPay and we would encourage everyone to donate at least £1 and hit our £1000 target. We are also collecting Easter Eggs for the SVP to donate to the homeless and students can bring these into school and pass to their Tutor.

Finally, we have said a fond farewell, but not goodbye, to Mr Capponi today. Please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

I wish you all a lovely weekend.

With every good wish prayer and blessing.

Yours sincerely



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