

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher:
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Friday 5th November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

You will be pleased to know that the students have made a very positive return to school after the half-term break. We had Declan McCarthy (our School Improvement Partner and practising Ofsted Inspector) pay us a visit on Wednesday and he was very complimentary about the students' engagement and attitude to learning. In fact, he was full of praise about the school in general and left with the intention of reflecting this in his written report to the Governors and Local Authority.

Covid update

As you were aware from communications last half term, our school has been classified as being in the midst of a 'Covid Outbreak'. Consequently, we are in regular contact with Public Health England and have to follow their advice and guidance. We had our telephone call with PHE this afternoon with the following outcomes:

Again, they thanked all staff and students for all their hard work this week and acknowledge that having restrictions in place and daily testing is tough.

The following plan for the next week has been agreed:

- Staff to return to twice weekly testing (Sunday & Wednesday)
- Internal restrictions to remain in place
- External restrictions can be relaxed

In order for external restrictions to be relaxed, we have to put in place stringent hand washing processes before and after social time. Heads of Year will be managing this within their year teams.

As always, we will continue to be under constant review and we will be speaking with PHE again next Friday.



Change in Reporting Schedule

We have noticed that the Parents' Evening for Years 7, 9 and 11 was scheduled in June, on the same night as the Year 11's Prom. Consequently, we have moved the Parents' Evening to 26th May 2022 to avoid any clashes. The changed dates are highlighted below and the dates have been amended on the website.

Year	Autumn Term	Date	Spring Term	Date	Summer Term	Date
Year 7	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Full written report	27/01/22	Parents' Evening	26/05/22
Year 8	Data Report	26/11/21	Parents' Evening	17/03/22	Full written report	10/06/22
Year 9	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Full written report	25/02/22	Parents' Evening	26/05/22
Year 10	Full written report	26/11/21	Parents' Evening	17/03/22	Data Report	10/06/22
Year 11	Parents' Evening	2/12/21	Full written report	25/03/22	Parents' Evening	26/05/22

Prizes and Awards

With Covid continuing to be a major factor in any event we host, we have decided to hold our Prizes and Awards celebration on the very last day of the Summer Term which will be Friday 22nd July. Year 11 students will be invited back for the event and it will be a wonderful occasion to celebrate the achievements of the children throughout the year.

The plan would be to run the Years 9, 10 and 11 celebration event between 9:30am and 11:00am and the Years 7 and 8 celebration event between 11:30am and 1:00pm. If you were available and able to keep the relevant times clear to join us then we would be very pleased to see you.

Year 11 Prom

As alluded to you earlier in the letter, we are planning holding a Year 11 Prom. This will be held on the evening of June 23rd 2022, the day before the Year 11 students finish school. The venue has not been confirmed but plans for a memorable and enjoyable evening for our young people are already well under way.

Years 5, 6 and & Open Evenings

With our continued restrictions due to Covid we have made the difficult decision to postpone these until after Christmas. We had planned to run them a few weeks ago but the measures that have been implemented to prevent the spread of Covid has made this impossible. We apologise for any inconvenience caused and feel extremely frustrated by the whole situation.

After yet another very busy week, I would like to wish you all a relaxing, safe and enjoyable weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'D Pearce', followed by a long horizontal line that tapers to the right.

David Pearce
Headteacher