

# HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

**Headteacher:**  
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Friday 12<sup>th</sup> November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

Unfortunately, we have had another week dogged with Covid cases, which has continued to have an impact on our daily operations and plans for the future. As we currently have about 15% of our student population out with positive test results, we are working very closely with Public Health England to determine the effectiveness of the measures we have in place and explore opportunities to do things differently.

Much to the students' dismay, we have had to revert to year groups being separated at all times, both inside and out, and the need for daily testing; at least until Friday 19<sup>th</sup> November. If you require further test kits in order to be able to test daily, please request these via the admin email address.

We are only allowed to welcome essential visitors on site and any whole school functions are having to be postponed or held remotely.

## **Reports and parents' evening**

On Friday 26<sup>th</sup> November the Year 10 students will receive a full written report and the Year 8 students will receive a data report. On Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> December the Years 7, 9 and 11 will have a Parents' Evening. Please remember that the reports and parents' evenings are completed on rotation to allow staff to invest a decent amount of time in every student they teach.

Unfortunately, due to the high number of Covid cases, the Parents' Evening will have to be held remotely. Explanations and instructions of how to book appointment times with staff will follow shortly.

## **Anti-Bullying Week 15<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> November 2021**

As a school, we are fully embracing Anti-Bullying Week and are fully committed to stamping out bullying at The Valley School. We have a number of initiatives running during the week, including student generated displays and an assembly. We are aiming for all students and staff to endorse our whole school agenda of inclusivity, tolerance and standing up to bullies.



## **Rewards**

From previous correspondence, you are aware of our new rewards structure in school. Feedback from staff and students is extremely positive and many are enjoying the opportunities it offers on Friday afternoons. It was wonderful to see the realisation on the faces of some of the young people when they were told they had already accumulated between £2:00 and £4:00 over the past few weeks.

The Year 11s, who have been given permission to leave the school site over lunchtime, have proved to be very responsible, conducting themselves in a sensible and mature fashion around the community and always returning to school promptly for the afternoon sessions.

## **Christmas Extravaganza**

We are so disappointed that our Covid situation has resulted in us having to postpone our Christmas Extravaganza and relabel it our Easter Extravaganza instead. The date has been moved from Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2021 to Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022. It was such a shame that we had to cancel the Mayor, Fire Service and a Magician that were all expecting to attend. The students that have been rehearsing and practising their performance for the event will have the opportunity to be filmed and their work show cased on the website. Please look out for permissions to allow this to happen, if your child has been involved.

As always, I hope you have a relaxing and safe weekend.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D Pearce', with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

David Pearce  
Headteacher