

HERTFORDSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

Headteacher:
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Friday 21st January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As restrictions are lifting we are now able to plan and engage students in activities beyond the school gates. It is pleasing to see our extended curriculum come to life, and children experiencing learning some distance from the classroom.

Sports clubs have restarted and there has been a wonderful take up by our young people. We are very much looking forward to the first interschool fixtures that will be commencing over the next couple of weeks.

Our Year 7s are looking forward to their boat trip from Ware to Stanstead Abbots. Ironically it is the conclusion to their Titanic project which they have been working on this half term. (And yes I am avoiding all the appalling 'Dad' jokes that could be associated with this!)

Open Mornings Wednesday 2nd and Thursday 3rd February

We were planning on holding an open morning for parents of our prospective students who are currently in Years 5 and 6, and for our current students in Year 7 on Wednesday 2nd February. This was originally planned to be held last term but had to be postponed due to Covid. Due to the popularity of the event (well over 100 people), we have had to host a second day on Thursday 3rd February.

It is lovely that we have so many people wanting their children to join our community, but we apologise to those inconvenienced by having their date of attendance changed.

During the visit parents will have the opportunity to learn about the school's curriculum, meet key staff, ask questions, spend time with our year 7s and have a tour of the school.

Towards the end of the morning our Year 10s and 11s will host you for coffee and cake as part of their hospitality course whilst you can chat with the Senior Leadership Team in the dining room.

Youth Projects

The Services for Young People are promoting their youth projects by setting up some lunchtime pop ups at the school. Youth workers will be setting up a stall with a display board and leaflets to hand out to your students next week.



Reports and Parents' Evening

This is just a brief reminder that the Year 7 will receive a data report on 27th January and Years 8 and 10 have a Parents' Evening on Thursday 17th March. Due to the overwhelmingly positive feedback from parents about the virtual Parents' Evening we held last term with Years' 7, 9 and 11, we plan to continue to use this approach. We understand the pressures on parents with regards to work, childcare and transport. The benefits of not having to leave the family home to meet with staff can make things far more manageable for you.

We also appreciate that sometimes it is important to meet with staff face-to-face. Please do not hesitate to contact the school if you feel you need to meet with a particular member of staff outside of the Parents' Evening events.

Year 11 Travel Training

After the February half-term 2022 those Year 11 students that would benefit from it, will have the opportunity to participate in some Travel Training sessions with Hertfordshire County Council's Travel Training Team. This is designed to support students in developing their confidence and independent travel skills prior to them leaving us in September. More details will follow closer to the time.

Easter Extravaganza

We were so disappointed that our Covid situation resulted in us having to postpone our Christmas Extravaganza and relabel it our Easter Extravaganza instead. Our new date for the event is Thursday 31st March 2022 between 6pm and 8pm. We are planning on rebooking the Mayor, Fire Service and a Magician that were all expecting to attend before the Christmas holidays.

The students that have been rehearsing and practising are very excited about their performance and we hope you can keep the date free to join us

Enemy of Boredom Half-Term Holiday Club

Enemy of Boredom is a provider that we use with some of our learners who find it hard to access parts of our curriculum. They are running a Video Games Design Club in the February Half Term. Please see link for more information and how to book.

<https://www.irlletchworth.com/events>

Hirings

Another opportunity that opens up now Covid restrictions are abating is the chance for us to hire out our facilities. We have a hall and a gym which we would like to hire out at £30 per hour each. The money accrued would be directed back in to the school to improve the learning experiences of our young people. If you are a member of a club or society that are looking for a space then please contact our Business Manager Paula Frost by calling (01438) 747274.

Wishing you a relaxing weekend.

Yours sincerely



David Pearce - Headteacher