



16 October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

I would like to start by thanking you all for your support in helping to get all our young people back to school and learning. We have found the vast majority to be fully engaged and pleased to be back to their learning and friendship groups. We have had 6 isolated confirmed cases in school which is low in comparison to many schools locally and nationally. We also had two members of staff test positive; they are thankfully both recovering well. It is incredibly important that students continue to keep themselves and others safe. Face masks are compulsory as is to carry sanitiser. Unfortunately, we have had to issue a number of masks to students who arrive to school having forgotten their own. Everyone has now had 6 weeks of these rules in school and therefore **from Monday 26th October**, if a student arrives without a mask and we have previously issued one, we will contact home and ask parents to bring one in. I realise this will be inconvenient for you all but to date we have issued approximately 500 masks and this emergency supply has now run out. For students where forgetting their mask is a first offence, we will issue a disposable mask and inform you that we have done so. Thank you for your support with this.

In the same vein keeping each other safe, I would like to reiterate the rules around the virus. If a student is displaying symptoms they **must stay at home** and get a test. They **MUST NOT** attend school whilst waiting for the result. If the result is negative they are free to return. If the test is positive, please inform us immediately. When a student tests positive, we follow PHE advice and anyone who has been in close contact will need to isolate. We identify these students and call parents to come and collect. Thank you to all those parents who have had one of these phone calls. We have been delighted at the support we have received from you.

Our teachers have been busy developing their on-line teaching resources for students isolating or in case of school closure. If you have a child isolating they can access the resources via Google Classroom/Satchel One (SMH) or other subject specific platforms.

For any students that have not had their baseline or half term assessment levels, these can be viewed on G4S. As a result of some Year 11's sitting their assessments this week due to isolating, the Year 11 levels will on by 30th October.

I have tasked each Head of Year and Year Group to raise at least £200 between now and Christmas with all proceeds to go towards the Stained Glass Window Appeal. Year 7 started us off this week with a cake sale. I don't think I have ever seen as many cakes, cookies or bakes in school! It was a lovely way to end this half term and I am delighted to announce the final total as £358.70 which is such an amazing effort. Thank you to all of our Year 7 parents, children and staff who baked and bought for this cause! The other year groups will be doing their fundraising next half term.

Praise and Reward

It was my great pleasure to award subject badges and Principals Pens to students across all year groups this half term; Congratulations to all of them for their hard work. Many of you will also have received letters of praise and postcards from the subject teachers. My thanks to the teachers for getting these out to you and of course to the students for being wonderful members of our community and working hard.

Spiritual Life

We had some beautiful Think Days with Year 7 this term where they spent time in our new Chapel with Deacon Seamus and their Form tutor thinking about the role they play in our community and how to look after each other. We also had students lead assemblies in small groups, which were then sent out to all form classes. We are still not able to have whole year group assemblies so these are lovely ways for students to lead acts of worship.

Student Senior Leadership Team (SSLT)

We interviewed and appointed our SSLT last week. There were some amazing students who are proud of their school. I am delighted to announce the appointments of our new Head Boy and Head Girl – Congratulations to Dan Broderick and Panashe Mudyiwa. Mikaela and Anabalu were elected deputies and Molly, Lisa, Megan and Simran make up the final members of the team as senior prefects.

Next half term

Year 7 have been tasked with designing this year's School Christmas Card. All details are on Satchel One.

Parents Evenings:

- Year 9 - Tuesday 3rd November
- Year 11 – Thursday 12th November
- Year 7 - Thursday 19th November

All Parents Evenings will be virtual, log on details along with instructions will be sent out after half term.

We are pleased we will be able to serve Christmas dinners this year in conjunction with Christmas Jumper/Mask Day. We will be in touch after the half term with details of how to order and pay.

Save the date: 16-18th November, 24-26th November-Sixth Form Information sessions for Year 11 parents and students. Click [here](#) to book a session.

Well Being

The following link has some good advice on different areas of mental health, such as sleep, exercise and anxiety <https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/your-mental-health/looking-after-your-mental-health> organisations that do great work with young people and their families:

www.kooth.com (a great part of this website is they offer free online counselling)

www.annafreud.org

www.nspcc.org.uk

www.youngminds.org

www.childline.org.uk

www.childrensociety.org.uk

<https://www.camhsresources.co.uk>

Final Reminders:

- Please inform us immediately of any positive COVID tests. If your child has a positive test during the half term holiday please either call the number on Mr Lockyer's letter or email me on sconaghan@st-pauls.leicester.sch.uk with the title 'Positive COVID test'.
- Our after school detentions are non-negotiable and students must sit them if they are issued with one.
- Students must come to school with their own mask.
- Non Uniform Day – Friday 20th November raising money for NDCYS
- Part 1 of the Year 11 mocks take place w/b 30th November. Students will be issued with timetables after half term. Part 2 will take place after Christmas
- Year 12 & 13 mocks will also take place after Christmas

I wish you all a very restful half term.

Best wishes



Mrs S Conaghan
Principal