

WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

I hope this finds you well and that the football fans amongst you are enjoying the tournament. For my part, I have had to suffer a great deal of abuse from colleagues this week since Wales were knocked out and England finally managed to achieve a result against Germany. I am currently licking my wounds and trying to find it in myself to wish England the best for the next couple of weeks.

Covid news + face coverings

In the meantime, I'm afraid that the situation with Covid rumbles on and is still causing disruption. Following two new positive tests last weekend and news of other suspected cases, we reluctantly took the decision to ask Year 12 to stay at home this week and shifted all lessons online. A couple more cases in the year group have indeed materialised, confirming that this was probably the most sensible move – apart from anything else, we would just have had so many students self-isolating that the quality of education for all of them would have been compromised. I'd like to thank parents, carers and students for your understanding over this: once again, you have been brilliant and this has made things so much easier for us to manage.

Year 12 will be allowed to return on Monday (unless individuals are still officially self-isolating) and, following advice from public health bodies, we are asking them to **wear face coverings indoors for the remaining three weeks of term**. We appreciate this isn't ideal, but the virus is clearly still spreading more easily amongst this age group and we want to do all we can to avoid further disruption between now and the end of the year. Please can parents and carers also reinforce the need for social distancing etc with sixth form students – it is quite apparent that most of the cases are occurring due to close contacts in social settings outside of school.

At this stage, students in years 7–11 still do not need to wear face coverings. I appreciate that some of you feel we should reinstate them, but we currently only have two live cases in the whole of the main school and so don't feel it necessary at this stage.

Best wishes to all of those self-isolating at the moment and having to access lessons remotely, and fingers crossed we can get to the end of term without much more disruption.

Confrontation

We have had reports from the police and one or two other schools in Warrington of a few so-called 'anti-vaxers' approaching students on their way to schools, trying to hand out leaflets and generally being quite confrontational. We don't think it is related, but one of our own students also suffered some very unpleasant verbal abuse from a member of the public in relation to Covid earlier this week. Please warn your children, advise them not to engage with anyone like this and let us know if they have any problems.

Behaviour in the community

It has been really disappointing this week to have had complaints from members of the public about behaviour of young people, including some from our school, at weekends and in the evenings – most specifically, at Slitten Brook. Following co-operation with us, the police are visiting a few homes but we know that these are not the only children involved. On behalf of everyone, we would really appreciate it if you could talk to your children about the need to behave safely and responsibly when they are out and about.

World Class Schools

I'm conscious that none of the above is especially positive, but we have also had some fantastic news this week in that we have been accredited as a 'World Class School'. A school has to be exceptionally strong even to be nominated so we are very pleased to have been successful in our bid, which was led by a group of Year 12 students. More news to come on this soon!

Have a lovely weekend and, I suppose, best of luck to England on Saturday.

Kind regards

Gwyn Williams

Founders' Day

This year's Founders' Day celebration will take place on Wednesday 21st July with the theme 'A Lasting Legacy'. Students are invited to attend school in non-uniform for a suggested donation of £1, which will go towards their Hall Charity. During the day, all students will be involved in a 5K sponsored walk, a year group assembly and a fun carnival in the school grounds. For full details, please [click here](#) to read a letter from Mrs McGahey.

Chromebook programme

In response to the coronavirus pandemic and a need by our students to access remote learning from home, we launched our Chromebook programme and now have over 500 students signed up to the scheme. We very much hope that we will not need to return to a period of school closures and learning from home, but if we do, we know that our students are more prepared than ever as a result of having access to affordable and suitable devices which support their studies wherever they take place. This programme is now being offered to any students and parents who wish to sign up this summer term. For full details, please [click here](#).

Quad Area

A new flower bed has been built in the quad area at the centre of school's E block and several rose bushes have now been planted. The quad is now a memorial garden and the new flower bed has a plaque dedicated to John Berry.

Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering accounts via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food during their lunchtimes.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to Mr Shuttleworth who was this week's school lottery winner! You could be a winner too!

If you have not signed up for our lottery yet, please head to our dedicated lottery website [here](#). If you want to find out how it works, please [click here](#). Tickets are only £1 each week and if you sign up this term you could win a year's supply of fruit and veg boxes delivered to your home. Your support would be hugely appreciated.

UPPER SCHOOL

Year 11 Online Induction Day – Monday 5th July

We look forward to welcoming our Year 11 students to the last of our induction days for sixth form on Monday 5th July. We are disappointed that we have been unable to hold this event in person; however, we

have an exciting online day planned. Students will receive their timetables via their email address on Friday 2nd July. We recommend that all students intending to join us in the sixth form in September take part in this Induction Day. Not only will they receive valuable subject information, we will be explaining the summer work they will need to complete, and sharing details about Results Day on Thursday 12th August.

Mrs Jennings

SIXTH FORM

Year 13 Results Day Assembly – Thursday 8th July 4pm

We are holding a Year 13 online assembly on Thursday 8th July at 4pm to run through our arrangements for Results Day on Tuesday 10th August. Students have received a calendar request with the Zoom link attached and we strongly recommend they attend. Parents are also welcome to attend but will need their son/daughter's Zoom log-in details to join this meeting. Meeting details will be shared nearer the time.

Many thanks,
Mrs Jennings

Foodbank collection

We have extended the deadline for Year 12's foodbank collection as they were off school last week.

If you would like to contribute to Warrington's Homeless Shelter, please drop off donations at the staff room. All non-perishable items are welcome.