

WHOLE SCHOOL

Dear parents and carers

Starting, as ever, it seems, with the latest on COVID, I think I speak for most of us when I say that it has been great to see the back of face coverings following the move back to 'Plan A' yesterday. Although it hasn't been anything like as traumatic as some in the media would have us believe (largely because students have been so sensible about the whole thing) face coverings certainly have been an added distraction and it will be nice not to have to wear them for the time being at least. On the absence front, numbers seem to have settled down and, whilst the number of both staff and students out of school is a fair bit higher than normal (remember 'normal', anyone?!), it is proving to be manageable and certainly no worse than most places. Many thanks once again for your continued understanding of some of the challenges this presents.

I welcomed a headteacher from Suffolk to the school earlier this week, who spent the day with us, looking to see and share good practice. Having not been able to do so much of this kind of thing in recent times, it was lovely to be able to take a bit of a step back and reflect as we walked around and compared notes. He was extremely positive about what he saw, commenting in particular on the behaviour and attitudes of students and on how impressed he was by the level to which we have managed to keep focused on the things that matter during the pandemic. It was one of those times where I was able to pause and appreciate just how proud of our school we are and how lucky we all are to be here.

At the same time, we are conscious that staff absence alongside the need to think about so many additional things has meant that a few too many students have recently been managing to squeeze into 'gaps' that wouldn't ordinarily be there. The move away from COVID restrictions makes it a logical time for us to just tighten up in one or two areas; and Mr Thompson will be reminding students next week about a few basics such as the importance of being on time, wearing uniform correctly, not eating food on corridors and being sensible at social times. We don't need anything dramatic (I remain full of praise for students in terms of how they have conducted themselves this year) but you may want to remind your children that they can't really argue if they find themselves in a detention for choosing not to follow a rule they knew full well about, especially given that Mr Thompson had probably reminded them about the said rule on Monday!

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Kind regards
Gwyn Williams

Parent Governors

Dear parents,

Thank you to those parents who expressed an interest in standing in the election for Parent Governors. Due to the number of candidates, we did not need to go through an election process. I am delighted to be able to welcome our new Parent Governors to the Governing Body: George Bainton, Helen Cattell, Michael Clarke and Laura Shaw. We look forward to working with them together to serve the LHS community.

Liz Green, Chair of Governors

Covid testing

A reminder that students should still be performing a Covid test twice weekly on a Wednesday and Sunday. Thank you for your cooperation.

Life Programme

Please see information below regarding next week's Life Programme sessions for years 7–11:

- Year 7: Self-worth and media stereotypes.
- Year 8: Mental Health – The law in relation to consent; legal and moral duty is with the seeker of consent; how to communicate about consent.
- Year 9: Consent and the myths/misconceptions.
- Year 10: Positive and negative role model influences; media perceptions of gang culture; peer influence in gangs, drugs and crime.
- Year 11: Emergency vs. non-emergency situations; CPR; registering with services; dealing with doctors.

Don't forget to check out our website for resources to support difficult conversations at home. This can be found [here](#). If you require any further information about these topics, please contact lifeprogramme@lymmhigh.org.uk.

Car parking

Can parents please avoid parking on the raised area between the bus lane and the left of the car park. This area is used for the school minibuses.

Parents should also not be dropping off students at the Lodge entrance. This is the staff entrance and needs to be kept clear at all times.

Online school shop

Parents may not be aware that our school shop is now online. Uniform can be ordered on a 'click and collect' basis by [clicking here](#).

DofE Bronze Qualifying Expedition

As you know the final qualifying expedition for our Year 9 Bronze DofE cohort is on **Thursday 21st to Friday 22nd July**. This was originally the last 2 days of term but as a result of the Queen's Jubilee we are now breaking up on **Thursday 21st July**. Unfortunately, it is not possible to move the DofE expedition as our expedition provider is fully booked up for the summer term, so the expedition will remain on **Thursday 21st to Friday 22nd July**. As this is a recent change to the school calendar, it shouldn't cause any problems, but we wanted to clarify and explain the situation nonetheless. Please be mindful of this if intending to change any summer holiday plans. Thank you.

Cashless catering

Please remember to top up your child's cashless catering account via Parent Pay to ensure your child is able to purchase food at break and during lunchtimes.

You can [click here](#) to view the lunch menu, which changes each day. The price list can be [viewed here](#).

PTA Band Night – Saturday 14th May

Please save the date for this social evening for parents and carers at Lymm Golf Club (Covid permitting!). Further details will be shared nearer the event.

Amazon Smile

You can help us raise money for Lymm High's PTA while online shopping at no extra cost to yourselves. All you need to do is sign up for the Amazon Smile Account by clicking here: [smile.amazon.co.uk: You shop. Amazon gives.](https://smile.amazon.co.uk)

Any of your Amazon purchases will then benefit our school by giving us a little cash each time. Thank you for your support.

LHS Lottery

Congratulations to Mr Nolan 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 sign up this half-term you could win a Forest Holiday worth £500 in one of 11 locations throughout the UK.

If you want to find out how the school lottery works, please [click here](#). Tickets are only £1 each week and your support would be hugely appreciated.

LOWER SCHOOL

Year 8 Knowledge Organiser Trial

We are currently trialling a new approach to Knowledge Organisers with Year 8 students to ensure that this resource is more user-friendly for students and parents. This week, Year 8 students were issued with a streamlined Knowledge Organiser booklet which contains all the resources from this term. This should be kept in bags to be used in lessons, and also used at homework to revise and consolidate their learning from the classroom. Year 7 and 9 will continue with their current Knowledge Organiser folders for the time being.

While these Knowledge Organisers do not include everything students need to know, and have been taught, if they know the fundamental ideas on their Knowledge Organisers, this will give them a solid basis from which to be successful in their assessments.

Class teachers may set specific revision homework from these Knowledge Organisers via 'Satchel one', however, they can be used at any time to supplement student homework with revision of key topics from that week, or earlier in the unit.

Year 9 Parents' Evening

Year 9 Parents' Evening will take place on **Thursday 10th February**. This will be virtual and further details will be sent out next week.

Year 11 support

An overview of Year 11 intervention and revision sessions will be released at the start of next week. This will outline the support that will be on offer in the lead up to exams. Many of these will be next week, with more being added after the half term.

Please contact class teachers for more information on subject-specific revision, and jwagstaff@lymmhigh.org.uk if you have any general queries about support for your child.

Year 11 Sixth Form Interviews

We will be in touch shortly to arrange interviews for the Year 11 students who have applied to join our Sixth Form.

Mrs Jennings