



Thursday 11th February 2021

Dear Parent / Carer

I am sure you are looking forward to a break over half term. I can confirm that the school will be closing to all pupils from Monday 15th February. School will re-open for those who are attending our on-site small school provision from Monday 22nd February, this is also the date that we will resume our delivery of remote lessons for those remaining at home. I hope you and your children will be able to take advantage of a break from remote lessons and looking at screens by getting outside in the fresh air for a walk or a bike ride which can do wonders to support and promote well-being.

Headlines and comments from the parent survey

97% of parents are clear or very clear about communication from the academy around COVID 19.

89% of parents feel that there have been appropriate changes and adaptations made for home learning.

Learning Platforms

"They are great platforms to work with and information is well communicated."

"Staff are working incredibly hard during this time"

General

"No criticism at all just very grateful for providing students with the laptops and enabling them to continue with their education."

"Thank you to all of the staff. It is a difficult situation and it has been handled well."

Things you may want to refer to in terms of changes we may make?

"As a parent I feel that the students should be given an hour to go for a walk or run so that they can get some fresh air and help wake them up!"

"I think it's a long time to be sat in one space I think the kids need more of a break"

In response we have reviewed our SAS curriculum on Wednesdays to give children a break from the screen and departments are looking at fitting more breaks from the screen into their lesson planning.

We are grateful for the feedback from both parents and students about the wonderful work our staff are doing. Everyone is playing their part, whether teaching remotely, supporting vulnerable children and the children of key workers, providing essential admin support, working in the testing centre or clearing snow! It is a phenomenal team effort: I know some of you are juggling your own work commitments whilst your children are also at home, but we are delighted that this has been a different opportunity for so many of you to be involved in your children's learning. We are truly all in this together.



You will probably already be aware that the Government has set the date of the 8th March for a possible return to school. We do not yet know what this may look like and this will depend on the rate of hospital admissions and local rates of infection.

We are, of course, desperate to resume our normal provision as soon as we can, and I assure you that we will respond quickly, communicate with you and plan for the pupils to return as soon as we have any announcements. We are very aware that we will need to provide support and reassurance, particularly to students who were due to take their examinations this year. The joint Ofqual and DfE consultation on possible arrangements for the awarding of qualifications in 2021 closed on Friday 29th January. As soon as the outcome to the consultation and any firm details are released, we will act quickly to plan and advise you. Until then, it is still essential that all students continue to engage fully in their learning, teachers are working hard to ensure our students are well prepared for any scenario and you will be well supported every step of the way.

World Book Day

In true Tudor Grange style we are planning exciting activities for World Book Day on Thursday 4th March. In primary children will be guessing the 'masked' reader and exploring a variety of themes. In secondary pupils can expect a whole range of activities and competitions, including an extra tutor time session on this day. You will be able to see photos and results of competitions in our March newsletter.

Finally, it was very saddening to read recently of the death of Captain Sir Tom Moore who did so much to lift our spirits during the first lockdown by walking laps of his garden to raise almost £33m for NHS charities. In the spirit of his resilience, determination and positivity let us live by and remember his message of hope that "tomorrow will be a good day".

Yours sincerely

Mrs S Roach
Executive Principal