



# THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

Headteacher: Mr P E McCullagh BSc (Hons), PGCE, MA, NPQH

Peaks Hill  
Purley  
Surrey  
CR8 3YP

8<sup>th</sup> October 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

## COVID-19

We know how important it is for you to be able to send your son to school. We are taking a number of measures to help prevent the spread of the coronavirus, including:

- Encouraging all staff to test regularly to minimise the risk of transmission
- Ensuring our students and staff practice good hygiene
- Making sure our spaces are ventilated and we are expecting our CO2 monitors very soon
- Encouraging all members of our community to isolate and book a [PCR test](#) should they develop symptoms of the virus.

We are also asking you as parents/carers to encourage your son to test twice per week and to report each of those test results and help the school remain open. We have had six positive test results in Year 8, one in Year 9 and two in Year 10 this week. As a result of this, students in Year 8 are asked to wear face masks in class rooms and communal areas and will not be meeting together as a year group, from Monday up until half term in the first instance. Up to one in three people who have COVID-19 can spread the virus without knowing. This is because they have no symptoms. Please ask your son if he has received his test kit from his tutor and help him to take the test if necessary. The tests come with guidance in multiple languages on how to take the test. You can also view this useful video which shows you [how to take the test](#). Tests usually take a few minutes to do and you get the results in 30 minutes. Please remember to record your son's test results onto the TestRegister platform.

If you are unable to work due to your child having, or displaying symptoms of, COVID-19, you may be entitled to a one-off payment of £500 through the [NHS Test and Trace Support Payment scheme](#) if you are required to stay at home and self-isolate. You will be eligible if you meet all the following criteria:

- you have been asked to self-isolate by NHS Test and Trace, including by the NHS COVID-19 app
- you are employed or self-employed
- you cannot work from home and will lose income as a result
- you are claiming at least one of the following benefits:
  1. Universal Credit
  2. Working Tax Credits
  3. income-related Employment and Support Allowance
  4. income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
  5. Income Support
  6. Pension Credit or Housing Benefit

### **Sports Gala Dinner**

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who attended the Sports Gala dinner along with staff, alumni and special guests to include Alex Dombrandt, Tim Murtagh and Andy Powell. It was a fun evening with much needed funds raised for the school.

### **Mini Marathon**

We are delighted to inform you that one of our students in Year 8 called Ewan Sone was selected by Sutton (he was also offered a place by Croydon) to run in their mini marathon U13 boys team on Sunday 3rd October. He did amazingly well, coming 15th out of all the London Borough teams in the U13 boys race. There were 137 Borough runners in all.

### **Mufti Day: Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October**

Our first Mufti Day of this academic year will take place on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> October. This will be in return for a minimum donation of £1 for students in Year 7 (who will be wearing their Games kit) and a minimum of £2 for the students in all other year groups. The money raised will be split between Young Minds <https://www.youngminds.org.uk/> and Our Streets Now <https://www.ourstreetsnow.org/>

### **RSHE Evening: Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November**

Some of you may be aware of a report in June regarding sexual abuse within schools. The findings of this report make for difficult reading. The report found that sexual harassment and online sexual abuse are so commonplace that young people see no point in reporting incidents. Recommendations from the report include educating students as a significant factor in reducing the potential for abuse to happen in the future. We are inviting all parents/carers to an Information Evening when an outside speaker will come to school and speak to you all about sexual abuse.

The Information Evening will take place in the Sports hall on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and there will be different events for different Key Stage age groups. Further information will be shared closer to the evening itself.

### **Black History Month**

We are now at the start of Black History Month and there are some exciting plans ahead. The theme is 'Celebrating success'. The History Department have prepared some excellent resources for Form time with Black Sporting Heroes in the centre. Also, each week there will be a different event for students ranging from music, to food, to film and documentaries to poetry.

### **Month of Our Lady**

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary.

The Memorial of Our Lady of the Rosary was celebrated yesterday on 7th October.

### **Pope's Intentions for the month of October**

*'We pray that every baptised person may be engaged in evangelisation, available to the mission, by being witnesses of a life that has the favour of the Gospel.'*

Yours sincerely,



P E McCullagh - Headteacher