



THE JOHN FISHER SCHOOL

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

Peaks Hill
Purley
Surrey
CR8 3YP

25th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Some important messages for you:

Covid-19

You will be aware that the Prime Minister set out the next phase of the government's Covid-19 response this week. The key points were:

Self-isolation

- The removal of the legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, adults and children who test positive will continue to be advised to stay at home and avoid contact with other people for at least five full days, and then continue to follow the guidance until they have received two negative test results on consecutive days.
- Schools can take the decision to refuse the student if, in their reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other students and staff from possible infection with Covid-19.
- Routine contact tracing has ended. Fully vaccinated close contacts and those aged under 18 will no longer be asked to test daily for seven days, and close contacts who are not fully vaccinated will no longer be required to self-isolate.

Testing

- The government has removed the guidance for staff and students in most education and childcare settings to undertake twice-weekly asymptomatic testing.
- Mainstream schools will be able to order tests if advised to do so in the event of an outbreak in the setting.
- All staff and students will continue to be able to access test kits from their local pharmacy or online.
- Anyone with symptoms should take a PCR test, stay at home and follow government guidance if positive. People who have tested positive will continue to be advised to stay at home for five full days and then receive two negative test results on consecutive days before returning to their workplace or setting.
- Staff and students who test positive should use any test kits they already have at home to undertake testing on days five and six, before returning to school if they test negative. If they have run out, they should order additional test kits online or a school can supply them with a box of seven self-test kits if they are able to do so.

The guidance to self-isolate following a positive test therefore remains exactly the same, the only difference being it is no longer a legal requirement to do so. The John Fisher School still expects staff and students to self-isolate and not attend school following a confirmed positive test.

Information Sessions for Parents/Carers

Thank you to the parents/carers who attended our RSHE event at school this week. We hope that you found the session both informative and helpful.

We are currently planning two remote events for the parents/carers of Yr 11 and Yr 13 ahead of the public examinations this summer. More information will be made available closer to the time, but please reserve the following dates in your diary:

- Information Evening for parents/carers of Yr 11 students via Zoom:
Monday 21st March (6.00pm/6.30pm)
- Information Evening for parents/carers of Yr 13 students via Zoom:
Monday 28th March (6.00pm/6.30pm)

Parent Teacher Meetings

Thank you to the parents/carers of Yr 7 who attended our remote parents evening last night. Our next remote Parent Teacher Meeting will be for Yr 12 on Thursday 24th March.

We hope that the parents/carers of Yr 11 found the recent Parent Teacher Meetings a useful experience to help prepare their sons for their upcoming assessments and eventual examinations.

Parents of Yr 8 Students

The school has been considering the impact of closure on Yr 8 students and the impact of this on their ability to select their courses at Key Stage 4. We are now in the third year of missed learning and it has been decided that students at The John Fisher School will have their options process in Yr 9 and not in Yr 8. More information on this will be made available at a later date.

Lent

Ash Wednesday services will be taking place in the Chapel from Period 3 onwards for students in Yr 7, Yr 8, Yr 9, Yr 10 & Yr 11 and there will be representative from CAFOD in school on Friday 18th March.

World Book Day – Thursday 3rd March

Thursday 3rd March is **World Book Day**. The theme for this year is '**You Are A Reader**' and we want to show all students that they can love reading. Staff members will be dressed as some of their favourite characters and students in Yr 7, Yr 8 and Yr 9 are invited to do so as well. Some activities on the day will include:

- Staff and student literary quiz
- Launch of our Murder Mystery Writing Competition
- Student Literary Scavenger Hunt
- Recording of Akala's new book launch (The Dark Lady) in the LRC after school

This is just to confirm that all ParentPay accounts have a 'lost/damaged' book fee as an option **just in case** a book from our new library is lost or damaged by a student. If or when this occurs you will be contacted directly first and asked to either make a payment or provide a replacement book.

Catering

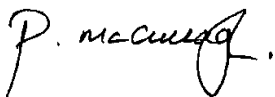
Please encourage your son to complete the recent survey on catering which was shared with them. We have received over 350 responses but believe we could have more. The feedback will be shared with Harrison Catering.

Final Prayer

'Lord, we pray for the people of Ukraine at this time. Protect the innocent and vulnerable. Give wisdom to global leaders. Humble the proud. Lord, we long and pray for peace.

Amen.'

Yours sincerely,



P E McCullagh
Headteacher