

1st April 2022

Dear Parent/Carer

End of Term 4 updates

Term 4 has been another very challenging term for most schools as the Covid cases have risen again and absence amongst staff in particular has been abnormally high. Despite this, we are delighted that we have made it to the end of term without missing a day or having to move to online learning and we even managed to squeeze in a cake sale and an Easter Egg hunt.

It has been great to be able to welcome more visitors onto our site this term including for the Options Evening yesterday which was extremely well- attended. Other highlights have included the fantastic performances of 'Our Greatest Show' and of course the visit from Ant and Dec's Saturday Night Takeaway and the beautiful display of rainbow lights we were treated to that weekend! We hope that if you haven't yet visited the school there will be an opportunity for you to do so next term.

Despite unprecedented amounts of cover due to the ongoing Covid absence, we have been very pleased with the work ethic of the vast majority of our students who have been determined to make the best of a difficult situation and make sure that they get the most out of their learning. Well done to all those students who have worked so hard and thank you to parents and carers for supporting them at home.

Year 11 students have been preparing for the summer exams by sitting their second mock assessments and attending after school sessions as well as 1:1 in Maths and English where needed. Years 7-10 have also had their mid- year assessments. Year 11 students have plenty of revision resources to support them over the holidays (as well as some on- site sessions with teachers during the holidays) and years 7-10 always have access to their online homework programmes including Sparx and Hegarty Maths, LanguageNut and Seneca if they have a spare moment in the break.

Below are some further updates for the end of Term 4 and start of Term 5.



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Term dates:

East Sussex has different holidays from Brighton and Hove and also West Sussex at various points this year.

Please note:

End of term 4	Friday 1 st April (2.20pm finish)
Start of term 5	Wednesday 20 th April (Tuesday 19 th April, INSET day)
Bank Holiday	Monday 2 nd May
End of term 5	Friday 27 th May
Start of term 5	Monday 6 th June
End of term 6	Thursday 21st July (Friday 22nd July, additional day school holiday for
	Queen's Platinum Jubilee)

COVID-19 Guidance

From 1st April, the recommendation for any student with a positive Covid test is that they stay away from school for 3 days only. This is to balance the efforts to reduce the spread of the virus and the disruption caused to the education of our young people by prolonged absence. We will continue to have the following in place to help manage the spread of the virus

- 1. Have hand sanitisation points available
- 2. Maintain more regular cleaning
- 3. Ensure good ventilation in learning and social spaces
- 4. Allow any individual to wear face masks if they prefer although they are not required anywhere on campus

Thank you to everyone for your support as we hopefully are now returning to normality longer term.

Conflict in Ukraine

Many of our students have been understandably anxious or upset by the news of the Russian attack upon Ukraine. To support their questions and concerns, we have dedicated time during tutor time to address these matters. We have delivered presentations that have informed students of the history of the conflict of Ukraine, current news/information on the attacks and advice on where to go for support. Below are some useful resources to help parents and young people bring these conversations into the classroom or home.

War in Ukraine: What's happening there? - CBBC Newsround

https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60554258

Talking to children about war

https://www.barnardos.ie/media/14835/talking-to-children-about-war.pdf

On Thursday this week students had a fantastic cake sale and competition to raise funds for the disaster relief organisations and raised several hundred pounds. We had no idea we had so many talented bakers!

Have a very happy Easter and we look forward to seeing many of you next term. Thank you for your continued support during such unsettled times.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Pringle

Headteacher