



Mr G Panayiotou – Headteacher
Mr John McNichol – Chair of Governors

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Our Ref: GP/NF

3rd February 2021

Dear Parents/Carers

We hope this letter finds you well.

We wanted to start by saying a huge well done to all of the pupils who have been taking part in live lessons and diligently working through their pre-recorded lessons. Your teachers share with us regularly how great it is to see the energy and enthusiasm that is going into pupils' work. Many pupils have started to receive Headteacher certificates and text messages to say well done. These will continue this week. Keep going, we are very proud of everyone!

Show My Homework Reminder

We have noticed that some pupils are marking work as complete on SMHW before they have submitted work to their teachers. This means that when parents check, it looks like the work has been completed when that might not be the case. In school, we track both the use of SMHW and work submitted by pupils. Can you please remind your son/daughter to make sure that they submit their work before marking the work as complete on SMHW.

Half Term

The government stated last week that schools will not be expected to open over February half term. This means that the academy will be **closed to all pupils from 2.50pm on Friday 12th February until it reopens on Monday 22nd February** (to provide childcare to the children of key workers and vulnerable children). Both live and pre-recorded lessons will be paused over half term to allow pupils (and parents) to enjoy the half term break. Remote learning will resume on Monday 22nd February. Free School Meals will be provided through a Local Authority scheme for that week.

Enrichment

We have been overwhelmed by the amazing responses to all of our enrichment activities. From the PE community competition to the big draw, the response has been phenomenal. Well done to everybody for taking part and getting involved. This week we have even more departments offering a little something to do beyond live lessons and away from screens. Mr Rayfield's nature themed photography competition continues to gather some amazing submission and the music department have launched their ever-popular Cas Factor – the Lockdown Edition! We're very excited to see entries for both.

Youth Workers Helpline

The Young People's Empowerment Project are a source of support for young people who might feel anxious or worried and need somebody to talk to. They have youth workers on hand to take calls between 9.30am and 4.00pm Monday to Friday. Calls can be made to either 07517369651 or 07955523070.

Year 7 Virtual Parents Evening

Booking for the Year 7 Virtual Parents Evening will open at 6pm on Wednesday 3rd February. A letter has been sent to Year 7 parents today with further information on how to book.

Re-opening of Schools

The Prime Minister confirmed on the 27th January that schools and colleges will not return to full face-to-face education after the February half-term and that the current attendance restrictions **will remain in place until the 8th March at the earliest**. It is hoped that if the target of vaccinating everyone in the top four priority groups by 15th February is met, then those groups will have developed immunity three weeks later, by the 8th March. The government will therefore look at fully re-opening schools from this date. We are very much looking forward to the time when it is safe for pupils to return to school. As soon as we have more information about how and when this will happen, we will share this with you.

In the meantime, stay safe. We hope to see everybody very soon.

Yours faithfully



Mr G Panayiotou
Headteacher

Yours faithfully



Mrs D Cook
Associate Headteacher

