



22 May 2020

Dear parents and carers

I would like to thank all students, parents and carers for your hard work and support this term. Many teachers have been forwarding me examples of excellent work submitted to them and I have received a significant number of high quality entries to the May Headteacher Challenge. As I am still receiving entries and it will take me a while to choose the prize winners, I will announce the winners and students who have been highly commended in my first newsletter after half term. I have decided to set a Headteacher Challenge each month and listed details of the June Challenge below.

June Headteacher Challenge

Produce a short newspaper report about any recent event or news that interests you. It can be about something that has happened to your family, news about Ledbury or our local community, as well as national or international news. Entries should be set out as newspaper reports with a headline, the main article and photographs, diagrams and charts if the student wishes to include these and should be e-mailed to me at andy.evans@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk.

Arrangements for Half Term Holiday

There will be no online lessons set next week. Lessons for Year 7 to Year 10 and Year 12 will resume from Monday 1 June. Skeleton School will be available for children of key workers during half term from Tuesday 25 May until Friday 28 May and places may be booked by e-mailing admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk. If possible please could parents book a place at Skeleton School at least 48 hours in advance. After half term Skeleton School will continue to be available to children of key workers, vulnerable children and children with Education and Health Care Plans.

Phased Return of Year 10 and Year 12 Students

As detailed in letters for Year 10 parents and carers from Ms Limbrick and Year 12 parents by Mr Hawksworth, we are planning the return to school of Year 10 and Year 12 students for two hour sessions to gain support from their subject teachers commencing from Monday 8 June. We have conducted extensive research on safety measures, hygiene and preventing infection and produced a detailed risk assessment based on the latest government and NHS guidance, which is being shared with all staff and will be rigorously implemented. We will be thoroughly briefing all students who come into school, but I have included some of the main points below:

1. Students will be given a specific arrival and departure time. They must arrive at the specified time and report to the bus park where they will be briefed by a senior member of staff before being collected by their class teacher and then walked to their classroom.
2. Parents bringing students in or collecting by car, must park in a marked parking bay away from other cars and must remain in their car.

3. Students will be asked to wash their hands for at least 20 seconds on arrival and before leaving school.
4. Classrooms have been arranged to ensure students remain 2 meters apart at all times.
5. Any student who is not complying with the two metre rule, will be warned once and then removed from class to work in isolation if they fail to comply. If they still do not comply, parents will be phoned to ask to collect them.
6. Parents are reminded that any student showing symptoms must not come into school and must self isolate according to NHS instructions.
7. Any student becoming ill in the day will be isolated, looked after by a member of staff wearing PPE and collected by parents.
8. All staff are being given training on the full 16 page risk assessment on Tuesday 2nd June.

I hope you can see that although we cannot eliminate risk we are taking great care to do all we can to keep students and staff safe. We understand that some parents will not be able or wish to send students into school because either the student or a member of their household is vulnerable or extremely vulnerable. We understand this and just ask if you could let us know whether your son or daughter will be attending. We are aiming to broadcast the lessons delivered via Teams so that those students unable to attend in person can still access the lesson. Lastly we very much hope that students enjoy and benefit from the sessions we are putting on.

Year 11 and Year 13 Students

As previously stated, even though online lessons will not be set for Year 11 or Year 13 after the half term break, we are very keen to support students from these year groups in moving on to their next stage of education or employment. We are very happy to help with decisions about university, college or employment, to give careers advice or provide someone to talk to and give reassurance. At some stage we will need to collect books from Year 11 and Year 13, Mr Hammond and Mr Hawksworth will let you know the arrangements for book collection, for distributing exam results and mementoes we are planning including a virtual yearbook and leavers hoodies.

School Uniform

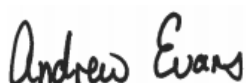
From 1 June onwards all students attending Skeleton School and Y10 seminars will need to wear their school uniform.

We have been informed by both of our uniform suppliers that they are offering an online service and that parents are able to order any school uniform needed. The lead in time might be slightly longer than usual, so parents ordering for September are advised to order well in advance.

And lastly

We would like to wish all students, parents, carers, families and staff a safe and happy half term holiday. We hope you can all enjoy some sunshine and relaxation.

With my very best wishes



Andrew Evans
Headteacher