



23 April 2021

Dear students, parents, and carers,

We have had a sunny and successful start to the Summer Term. I have been delighted with the way that students are concentrating in lessons and how they are determined to produce their best quality work. Importantly, students' behaviour has been excellent and I have witnessed numerous examples of students showing kindness and consideration to their peers and our staff.

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Clive Richards CBE DL

We have received the incredibly sad news that Clive Richards, a true friend of our school, and of all the people of Herefordshire has passed away aged 83.

Clive was a highly successful entrepreneur who was made High Sheriff in the City of London and was a local farmer at Lower Hope, Ullingswick. Clive was a great supporter of education, sport, culture, and good causes in Herefordshire and beyond. Clive donated £1-2 million annually to these causes with over a million pounds to enable the refurbishment of St Michael's Hospice in 2014. He has rightly been described as our county's greatest ever philanthropist.

Clive and his widow Sylvia have worked tirelessly through their work at the Clive and Sylvia Richards Charity to provide magnificent support to education in Herefordshire. They have made significant donations to many schools including ours. Their charity provided funding for three major projects at JMHS. They sponsored two new ICT Suites in English and music in 2010 in the days when our school was lacking in technology provision; they provided funding to refurbish our fitness suite in 2015; and most recently to create our new food technology rooms in 2019. The creation of the new food suite, named Don's Bistro, after Wing Commander Don Rule, means that every student has first rate facilities for practical cookery. Food Technology under Roger Oaten's leadership and using our excellent facilities has become one of our most popular and successful subjects.

Clive and Sylvia have been regular visitors to JMHS over many years, providing me with invaluable advice, enjoying talking to our students and staff, and attending school events. Clive always took a keen interest in our school including the achievements of our students' academically, at sport, and the arts. Our students loved talking to Clive who was tremendously positive, entertaining, and inspirational. We will miss him greatly and our thoughts are with Sylvia and his family.

Continuing COVID-19 testing at home

We would like to thank all students for taking lateral flow tests before returning to school on Tuesday. You are making an important contribution to keeping your friends, family and our wider community safe. It is important that regular testing continues with students and staff taking two tests per week to keep us all safe. Unfortunately, due to circumstances beyond our control we have not received from the DFE our next delivery of student home test kits this week. As soon as these arrive next week we will distribute these to students. We have a limited supply of test kits in school and if you need a test kit for the beginning of next week, please email admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk.

When testing it is important to:

1. Avoid eating or drinking for at least 30 mins before doing the test to reduce spoiling the tests.
2. Read the test result after 30 minutes - set a timer to help you remember. You should not wait any longer than 30 minutes.

Parents and carers need to log the results twice:

1. Online with the government test and trace site at www.gov.uk/report-covid19-result
2. You will also need to inform the school of the result by completing a short form, using this link [Student test result reporting form](#).

If a positive result is received, your household will need to self-isolate and you should also immediately inform the school by either phoning Reception or emailing admin@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk as we will need to identify close contacts and ask them to self-isolate. Detailed instructions about home testing and full guidance in the event of a positive result can be found on the school website, <https://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/>.

If your child develops any Covid related symptoms, your household must immediately self-isolate and book a PCR test, regardless of the LFD (home) test result.

From 1 March 2021, if you are a member of a household, childcare bubble or support bubble of staff or a student (but not a secondary school student, a primary or secondary school staff member), it is recommended you also get tested twice a week. You can follow this link to find out how to order rapid lateral flow tests: <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/rapid-lateral-flow-testing-for-households-and-bubbles-of-school-pupils-and-staff>

Online Parents' Evenings: Summary of responses to parental consultation

I would like to thank all of the parents and carers that responded to our consultation on the online Parents' Evenings we have run this year. In all over 230 of you completed the online survey. Your feedback is very valuable and I have read every reply and set out below a summary of the most common responses.

What has worked well

- Less waiting around and prompt starts
- Easy to access appointments
- Easy to view and to make appointments at a time to suit families
- 5 minutes per subject, information was precise and to the point
- Ability to speak confidentially
- No queueing and more civilised
- School Cloud system worked well especially for booking appointments
- Quieter environment and no distractions
- Linking up between two parents in different households
- Able to talk to all teachers

What has been difficult

- Felt a bit rushed
- Would have liked more time with some teachers
- Sound quality in a small number of cases
- Wifi issues in a small number of cases

Should we continue with online Parents' Evenings next year?

| | |
|------------|-----|
| Yes: | 83% |
| No: | 6% |
| Undecided: | 11% |

Comments and suggestions

- Online Parents' Evening work much better
- Extend the slots to 7 or 10 minutes
- Receive the report/ progress check prior to Parents' Evening
- It would be good to have the option of meeting a teacher face to face
- Having an opportunity to see the school and students' work would be good
- Only one teacher per subject, if there are two teachers they need to be in the same room.
- Have an opportunity to meet the form tutor and visit the school
- Even though the online Parents' Evening worked well, it would be good to meet teachers face to face

Conclusions

As the vast majority of parents and staff feel that online Parents' Evenings are more efficient and work better we will continue with online Parents' Evenings next academic year.

Even though many parents suggested longer appointment slots, this would not be practical for staff. For instance, the larger classes at JMHS have 33 students per class. If each appointment is 7 minutes this would mean the Parents' Evening would last for up to 4 hours per teacher. After a full day's teaching this is too long. Therefore, appointments will have to be for 5 minutes. However, the Sixth Form Leadership Team, will look into whether slightly longer appointments are needed and are possible for sixth form classes where the class sizes are smaller.

However, if there are particular issues that merit longer discussion, parents can contact the school to arrange a meeting with a form tutor, year leader or class teacher.

We will look into ways of providing parents opportunities to visit the school when we are allowed to do so.

Curriculum Plans for the Summer Term

Each curriculum subject has produced single page summaries of the topics they are covering this term, the key learning points and assessments for all classes in Year 7 to Year 10 and Year 12. We hope that knowing the topics to be covered and the key learning points will be useful for students and parents. They are summarised on the JMHS website in the Curriculum section, and can be viewed here:

<https://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/curriculum/summer-2021-curriculum/>

Extra-Curricular enrichment activities for the Summer Term

At JMHS, we know how important it is to develop students' experience of the world, cultural capital, character and sense of adventure. For this reason, JMHS follow an enrichment programme that supports and develops their character in line with our expectations of students, which is to be conscientious, co-operative and considerate. In order to empower them to become happy and successful in life, education and employment.

Details of the enrichment programme for this half term are set out below. If your son or daughter person would like to take part in any of these exciting opportunities, then please ask them to meet the club coordinator at their enrichment point in the Bus Park, where they will be collected by a staff member and escorted to the location where their club will be held. All clubs will begin the week commencing the Monday 26 April 2021.

Please note that, if your child would like to participate in a sports club then they are allowed to come to school in their PE kit.

| Club | Year Group | Location | Day/time | Teacher (Club Coordinator) |
|---|-------------------|---------------------------|---|-----------------------------------|
| Art Club | Year 9 | Room 20 | Wednesday 3:20pm - 4.20pm | Miss Vickers |
| Book Chat & Activities | Year 7 | Room 126 | Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.30pm | Mrs Locke |
| Book Chat & Activities | Year 8 | Room 236 | Thursday 3.15pm - 4.30pm | Mrs Locke |
| Choir | Year 7 | Room 125 | Day to be confirmed | Miss Davis |
| Choir | Year 8 | Room 236 | Day to be confirmed | Miss Davis |
| Choir | Year 9 | Room 17 | Day to be confirmed | Miss Davis |
| Choir | Year 10 | Room HU3 | Day to be confirmed | Miss Davis |
| Cookery Club | Year 7 | The Food Room (Room 28) | Start date to be confirmed | Mr Oaten |
| Cricket | Year 7 | The Field | Monday 3.15pm – 4.15pm | Mr Day / Mr Mulka |
| Cricket | Year 10 | The Field | Monday 3.15pm – 4.25pm | Mr Day / Mr Mulka |
| Cricket | Year 9 | The Field | Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.20pm | Mr Wyatt |
| Cricket | Year 8 | The Field | Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm | Mr Day |
| Cricket | Year 11 | The Field | Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.30pm | Mr Day |
| Dance Club | Year 11 | The Theatre | Monday lunch time 12.15pm - 12.45pm | Mrs Goodall |
| Dance Club | Year 10 | The Theatre | Wednesday lunch time 12.45pm - 1.15pm | Mrs Goodall |
| Dance Club | Year 9 | The Theatre | Monday 3.30pm - 4.30pm | Mrs Goodall |
| Dance Club | Year 8 | The Theatre | Thursday 3.30pm - 4.30pm | Mrs Goodall |
| Dance Club | Year 7 | The Theatre | Friday 3.30pm - 4.30pm | Mrs Goodall |
| Drama | Year 7 | The Studio | Tuesday 3.15pm - 4.15pm | Mrs Kyle |
| Drama | Year 8 | The Studio | Thursday 3.15pm - 4.15pm | Mr Mowbray |
| DT Club | Year 8 | The DT Room (Room 11) | Start date to be confirmed | Mr Haden |
| DT Club | Year 9 | The DT Room (Room 11) | Start date to be confirmed | Mr Haden |
| Gardening Club | Year 7 | The Access Road | Thursday 3.15pm - 4.30pm | Miss Davies |
| Gardening Club | Year 8 | The Access Road | Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.30pm | Miss Davies |
| French Pen Friend Club | Year 7 | Room 126 | Monday 3.15pm – 4.30pm | Ms Jones |
| iHeart Programme – Well-being & resilience post lockdown | Year 10 | Room HU1 | Tuesday 3.30pm – 4.30pm | Miss Newnes |
| Maths Club | Year 10 | Room HU1 | Monday 3.30pm – 4.15pm | Mr Ahluwalia & Mr Storey Scott |
| Orchestra | All year groups | The Music Room (Room 158) | Wednesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm | Miss Davis |
| Rounders | Year 9 | The Field | Monday 3.15pm – 4:20pm | Miss Limbrick/Miss Dix |
| Rounders | Year 11 | The Field | Monday 3.25pm – 4:30pm | Miss Limbrick/Miss Dix |
| Rounders | Year 7 | The Field | Tuesday 3.15pm – 4.15pm | Miss Limbrick |
| Rounders | Year 10 | The Field | Wednesday 3.25pm – 4.20pm | Miss Dix |
| Rounders | Year 8 | The Field | Thursday 3.15pm – 4.15pm | Miss Dix |
| The BIG Science Experiment | All Years | The Field | Once every half term. Date to be confirmed. | Mr Roberts |

Homework club is also on Monday – Thursday every week for each year group. If your son or daughter would like to join then please contact your child’s Year Leader who will book them in. Please find the information below:

| Day | Year | Activity | Location | End time | Staff |
|-------------------|-------------|-----------------|---------------------------|-----------------|----------------------------|
| Monday - Thursday | 7 | Homework Club | LIBRARY Languages side | 4.15pm | Mr Carpenter / Mr Haden |
| Monday - Thursday | 8 | Homework Club | LIBRARY House Office side | 4.15pm | Mr Carpenter / Mr Haden |
| Monday - Thursday | 9 | Homework Club | Room 38 | 4.15pm | Mr Fisher / Mrs Witherford |
| Monday - Thursday | 10 | Homework Club | Room 39 | 4.15pm | Mr Fisher / Mrs Witherford |
| Monday - Thursday | 11 | Homework Club | Room 7 | 4.15pm | Mr Kay |

There will be a variety of different activities throughout the Summer Term as part of the enrichment programme and students will be informed of these new and exciting opportunities in their tutor time.

School uniform this term

With the warmer weather, there is no need for students to wear coats in classrooms, even with all doors and windows open. We have returned to expecting students to wear their uniform smartly in every lesson. Students will still come in wearing their PE uniform on days where they have practical PE lessons. It has been good to see students wearing their uniform smartly and correctly in class and around the school. We would ask that each day students bring into school their JMHS sweatshirt or fleece for the mornings and at other times when it is cooler.

A full list of JMHS Uniform and JMHS PE Uniform are on the JMHS website and can be accessed here:

<https://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/April-2021-School-Uniform.pdf>

Communications with parents and visitors to school

In order to keep our school and the wider community safe, we will continue to minimise the number of visitors to JMHS and encourage parental meetings to be via phone or Microsoft Teams. Please do not come onto school site unless you have an appointment booked. If you do have an appointment, please ensure you wear a face covering at all times and remain two metres distant from students and staff.

Please could we ask that your son or daughter checks their equipment carefully before leaving for school as we cannot accept items brought in by parents and carers if students forget them.

Programme for the Summer Term for Year 11 and Year 13

Between now and May Half Term students in Year 11 and Year 13 will continue to prepare for and take assessments which will contribute to their Teacher Assessed Grades. We have published a summary of how students are being assessed for each subject on our website, so that every student and parent can check how they are being assessed for all their subjects. We have had to make a couple of changes to the assessment timetable for Year 11 students and an updated timetable is attached to this letter and the website (changes to assessment dates are highlighted in yellow). This area of the website can be accessed here:

<https://www.jmhs.hereford.sch.uk/parents-information/teacher-assessed-grades/>

In the final week before half term (Monday 24 May - Friday 28 May), students who have missed assessments or who have been severely disadvantaged may take the missed assessments or alternative assessments during contingency week.

Year 11

For Year 11 students who are not involved in assessments during the contingency week (24 – 28 May), subject lessons will continue, and we plan to offer activities which we hope students will find interesting and helpful as they transition to 16-19 education or training. Friday 28 May will be the last day where all Year 11 students are required to be in school. The exact programme for the day is not yet finalised but, as we unfortunately are not able to offer a School Prom this year, we intend to hold some celebration activities involving students and staff at around lunchtime, with students being permitted to go home in the early afternoon. We are also planning to offer Year 11 students the opportunity to purchase a Year 11 JMHS 'hoodie' – arrangements for obtaining these will be communicated in due course.

Support for Year 11 students in June

After the May Half Term holiday, until 30th June, the school will be making provision to support our Year 11 students in a variety of ways. Support in school will not be full-time and will be a blend of in-school activities as well as online provision. We anticipate that the vast majority of students will be working remotely from home. We have contacted the major local colleges that represent most of the post-16 destinations for our Year 11 students who do not go on to study at our Sixth Form. Although we do not have full details at this stage, the colleges have promised that they will provide transition activities in the form of online pre-learning tasks for our students. In addition, students intending to study at JMHS Sixth Form will undertake some transition work in school on the Tuesday 8

June, Wednesday 9 June, and Wednesday 23 June. We are arranging additional in-school activities including practical support for students who need help with college transition activities, drop-in post-16/careers support, supervised PE activities, online discussion sessions dealing with wider current issues such as mental health and wellbeing, National Citizen Service sign-up sessions, and we also hope to offer a British Army team building activities session. We are unable to provide precise details of these activities at the moment, but we aim to provide fuller details, dates, and times as soon as possible. If parents or carers have any questions, please contact Mr Hammond.

Year 13

The Year 13 leavers assembly and brunch will take place during period 2 on Thursday 27 May with the last lesson of formal face to face teaching being period 1 of that day. After the May Half Term holiday, until around the end of June, the school will be making provision to support our Year 13 students in moving forward. Students will be contacted and supported by their tutors and Head of Year to ensure they are fully prepared for their next steps be that university, apprenticeship or the world of work. Students will be able to make in-school appointments with their tutors or Head of Year if required. Exam results day is Tuesday 10th August and further details will be provided closer to the time.

If parents have any questions about awarding grades, please could we ask that you email peter.hammond@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk for Year 11 and mark.hawksworth@jmhs.hereford.sch.uk for Year 13.

3D printer donated by Grin & Bear IT Ltd

JMHS is delighted to announce that we have received an incredibly generous donation of a new 3D printer from Grin & Bear IT Ltd. All students in Year 7 and 8 study Design and Technology as well those opting to study GCSE Design & Technology from Year 9 and these students will be able to benefit significantly from access to a 3D printer.

Mrs Fox, Subject Leader for DT, has gratefully accepted the donation on behalf of JMHS. The 3D printer will bring a creative boost to the department and will be a core component in teaching students new and exciting skills. We are incredibly grateful to Wayne Miller from Grin & Bear IT Ltd for this wonderful donation.

Key dates for the Summer Term

Monday 3 May: Bank Holiday

Thursday 13 May: Staff Training Afternoon- students depart at 12.10/12.25pm

Thursday 27 May: Year 13 Leavers assembly and brunch, and last full day in school for all of Year 13

Friday 28 May: Last full day in school for all of Year 11

Monday 31 May – Friday 4 June: Half term holiday

Wednesday 16 June: Staff Training Afternoon – students depart at 12.10/12.25pm

Monday 14 June to Friday 25 June: Year 10 Exams

Monday 28 June to Wednesday 7 July: Year 12 Exams

Friday 9 July: Staff training day

Monday 16 July: Sports day (provisional and may need to take a different format to previous years)

Wednesday 21 July: Term ends – students depart at 12.10/12.25pm

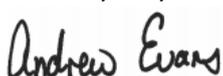
Tuesday 10 August: A-Level Results Day

Thursday 12 August: GCSE Results Day

... And finally

I would like to thank all staff, students and parents for an enjoyable and productive first week of term. I would also like to wish Year 11 and Year 13 students all the very best with their assessments this half term.

With my very best wishes



Andrew Evans
Headteacher