

**Monday 1 June 2020**

# Bulletin for Families

## Message from the Head of School

Welcome back for the final half-term of the academic year. We trust that this Bulletin finds you and your family in good health and well rested after the bank holiday break.

The theme for assembly this week is all about the environment and what we can do to make small changes for us that have big impacts on the world. Mrs Hodes led the assembly this morning and we are really interested to hear any ideas you have on ways we could help the environment in school.



Mr R Battle  
Head of School

It has been very pleasing to see so many students engaging with Google Classrooms and taking the opportunity learn in different ways with family members. I look forward to sharing more examples in future bulletins this half term.

If you have any questions regarding the on-going developments at school please do not hesitate to contact your son/ daughter's Tutor in the first instance.

Stay safe and well.

**Mr R Battle, Head of School**

## COVID-19 Update

Over the course of the last week, the Government has made several announcements about the wider opening of schools, including some 'face-to-face' support for Year 10 students with online learning remaining '**the predominant mode of education during this term**'. A questionnaire will be sent to families of Year 10 this week.

As you might expect, as a Trust and a School we continue to follow closely all Government announcements and it is worth reiterating that our world of education is inextricably linked to wider issues around public health. Whilst we can reduce the risks we cannot eliminate all risk. As of yet, the Government has understandably not yet released their guidance for schools for September onwards and in the absence of this we continue to plan for all eventualities for a physical return to school, prioritising the safety of all. Last week's SAGE report states that:

*'Delaying a school reopening by two weeks (to 15th June) approximately halves the risk that a child will be infected and delaying the reopening till September is less risky still'.*

Whilst this is reassuring, please be assured that at the forefront of our planning is the commitment to prioritising the safety of all. Clearly the combination of being a small school with high expectations, a fantastic staff body, good behaviour from students, supportive families and carefully thought-out routines, we will be able to minimise the risk to students, colleagues and families.

In the meantime, our dedicated teachers and support staff will continue to provide extensive work and support for all students via Google Classroom and Google Meet (Year 10). We also continue to be open full time for students whose parents' work is essential in the fight against COVID-19.

**Mr Barrow, Executive Headteacher**

## English Lessons

From Monday 1 June, in their online English lessons, students will be working on their writing skills. Each week's work will be divided into three shorter lessons focusing on different aspects of genre, audience and purpose. Along with improving their technical skills, these lessons will give students the opportunity to be imaginative and develop their creativity. Work will be set on Mondays and due in on Thursdays or Fridays. Feedback will be given at the beginning of each week. For our KS4 students, learning will be supported with weekly live sessions with teachers.

**Mrs A Mellor, Cross-Trust English Lead**