

22/10/21

Dear Parents and Carers

As we reach the end of a busy and productive term, I would like to thank staff, students and parents for all contributing towards the successes we have had. Students have achieved so much in the classroom and have engaged incredibly well in their learning. The successes I have seen and heard about are a testament to student's resilience, staff hard work and dedication, and parental support and encouragement.

The term has not been without challenges and we have had to make several changes to manage the Covid and the fuel situation. We really do appreciate your understanding at these times.

Forest School, Challenger Troop and the Duke of Edinburgh Award have all resumed and students are enjoying these practical opportunities, building their social skills and confidence through them. We have been able to nominate students for the Try-angle awards and the Jon Downton Art prize and raise over £600 for our sponsored "Brighton Dash". Thank you very much to everyone who used our Parent Pay sponsorship page to sponsor this event.

## **Vaccinations**

We are currently being advised of the arrangements for vaccinations in school and will be in touch with you after half term with the specific arrangements

With this letter I need to provide you with some important information. I have attached the following:

- **NHS – Covid-19 Vaccination Information leaflet for parents**
- **A vaccination consent letter – Consent must be given online**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> November is an INSET day and students will return on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup>.**

Please make sure your child continues to do their Lateral Flow Tests during the holiday, and that they test on Monday evening prior to their return.

We are beginning to experience increasing infection rates again and would like to ask you remind your child about wearing their mask on transport.

### **Free School Meals**

For students who are eligible for Free School meals, holiday meal vouchers will be sent to the email address we hold for you. Please get in touch with the school if you have any difficulties with this.

As we go into the holiday, can you please be vigilant about your child's use of social media. We have recently been hearing about inappropriate communications being shared between students via social media and chat apps. Our Parent Pages on the Website have a lot of information about some of the potential risks and how to keep your child safe online:

<http://www.goldwyn.kent.sch.uk/parent-pages/internet-safety-information/>

### **Queen's Platinum Jubilee**

To commemorate the Queen's Platinum Jubilee, there is an additional bank holiday on Friday 3 June 2022. The DfE have amended the Education (School Day and School Year) (England) Regulations to reduce the 2021/22 school year for maintained schools by one day to account for this additional bank holiday. This reduces the number of pupil contact days from 190 to 189. As 3 June 2022 falls during the Whitsun half term break, we are required to amend our published term dates to identify another day of holiday elsewhere in the year. We have decided this will be Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2022, meaning we will return to school after the Christmas and New Year break on **Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2022.**

Finally I would like to wish you all a restful half term break. We look forward to seeing students back on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November 2021.