

Headteacher: Mr K Hirst Executive Headteacher: Mr T Croft - BEd

Our reference: KH/GHR

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Parent/Carer

# End of Spring Term

We have ended the term in a much better position than when we started in January, with students now having been back for almost four weeks and generally into the routines of school that are so important for young people. I would like to thank you for your support once again in ensuring that the latest return has been extremely successful. Attendance has been incredibly strong and students have been supported by home and school to 'hit the ground running'.

As you are aware, school still operates with many safety measures in place, including regular COVID-19 testing by students and staff, the wearing of face coverings in school, one-way systems, heightened cleaning and ventilation arrangements and staggered break and lunchtimes. Our hope is that as we progress through the national 'roadmap' out of restrictions, life in school can begin to get back to what we knew before the COVID-19 pandemic.

A reminder that students, where parents have agreed, should continue to test twice each week during the Easter break – each Sunday and Wednesday. Results from these tests should be reported to the NHS and to school. The links to report these tests are included below:

- NHS reporting page link is here
- School reporting form link is here

## **Refillable Water Bottles**

We are keen to continue to limit the use of single-use plastic across school. After Easter, with warmer weather likely, could you please ensure your child brings a refillable water bottle to school on a daily basis as part of their essential school equipment. We have a number of water fountains that provide chilled, filtered water.

## Year 12/13 arrangements – Summer Term

After Easter there will be some changes to arrangements for Year 12 and 13 students. Year 12 students will be required to attend school all day, making use of study areas when they do not have lessons. Year 13 students should attend school from 8.30 form period, but will then be permitted to leave, should they wish, after their last taught lesson of the day. A letter with full details has been sent to parents of Year 12/13 students today from Mrs Metcalfe-Murgatroyd, Head of Sixth Form.

REDHILL ACADEMY TRUST

#### Students on school site and use of other areas

We have seen a rise in the number of young people (including a small number of Brookfield students) accessing the school site after school hours, such as the school field, when they are not permitted. The recent warm weather has seen some gatherings of students and some disruption for local residents. Whilst we recognise that young people will be keen to start socialising again, it should be noted that the school site is private and accessing the site amounts to trespass. Local police are aware and will be carrying out routine checks. Could I ask that you remind your children of these expectations. This also applies to some other areas, such as Somersall and Inkerman parks, where some larger gatherings have been reported by residents.

### **Staff leaving**

We bid farewell to two popular members of staff this week. Maths Teacher, Charlotte Davies who is taking up a post at Aldercar High School and Science Teacher, Hayley Butterworth, is taking up a role in Worcestershire. We wish them every success in their new roles.

## **Parent Governor Elections**

I am pleased to report that following the recent Parent Governor elections, Matt Castledine and Alison Watson have joined the BCS Governing Body. Congratulations and we look forward to working with you both.

### Newsletter

Attached with this letter is a copy of the latest edition of our Newsletter for your information.

## **Free School Meals**

Please note that Derbyshire County Council are providing food vouchers over the Easter break through its COVID-19 Winter Grant Scheme. They will be sending electronic vouchers directly to your mobile phone by text or via email from 29th March 2021. If you do not receive your electronic voucher by text or email, you will be able to report this via their online form. Please do not contact school as the vouchers are being organised directly by DCC. For further information please visit their website: <a href="https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/lottery-funding/covid-19-winter-grants/food-vouchers/food-vouchers-for-children-in-derbyshire.aspx">https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/community/lottery-funding/covid-19-winter-grants/food-vouchers-for-children-in-derbyshire.aspx</a>

## **School Re-opens**

School re-opens to all students on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> April 2021**.

Extending very best wishes to you all for a peaceful Easter break, and with every hope that next term will represent an important milestone for the school and the country.

Yours faithfully

Mr K Hirst <u>Headteacher</u>