

22nd November 2020

Dear Parent\Carer,

Covid-19 Positive Test Results

This week we have responded to positive test results for individual students in three different year groups: Year 8, Year 9 and, most recently, Year 10 – which we were alerted to over the weekend. As a result, we have a number of students who are now required to self-isolate and do their best to keep up with their studies through the work that is set on Google Classrooms.

I am aware of how disruptive this can be to students and families and am extremely grateful for the support we have received for the actions we have had to take. Whilst I know there are a range of views on self-isolation and the spread of COVID-19, it is heartening that all in members of the school community have to come together to follow the government's guidance to help reduce transmission risk and keep everyone safe.

With this in mind a number of parents have highlighted to me the COVID Symptom Study, a project involving King's College London, Guy's and St Thomas' hospitals and the health data science company ZOE to help get data about Covid-19. The project wants parents and carers to download their App and report how your child\children is feeling each day. I attach further details here, but you may wish to follow the instructions online. To do so please visit <https://covid.joinzoe.com/schools> When setting it up you will eventually be asked for the Unique School Network Code. That code is **BGRLR6N**

Virtual Parents Evenings

We held our first Virtual Parents Consultation Evening with Year 8 last week and I am delighted that the feedback was extremely positive. Parents as well as teachers have commented on how smoothly it went and that the technology did not let us down. We will be using the same system for our Year 9 Parents Evening on Tuesday 1st December and for Pastoral Review Day (which will be for students in all years except Year 11) on Wednesday 9th December and you will be receiving further details about these events very shortly.

Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening

We welcomed a large number of Year 11 families, including many from outside Highgate Wood School, to the Sixth Form Virtual Open Evening. Both the webinar and the virtual tour are now available on the school website. Please visit <https://bit.ly/hwswebinars> to view. I do hope that our Year 11s are now fully focused on their futures and look forward to seeing them here as sixth formers. In the meantime, I wish them all the very best for their upcoming mock exams.

Highgate Wood School Student Council supports individual action to address the issues of Climate Change and promotes the United Nations top 10 recommendations.



5-minute showers



Drive less



Lights off



Local produce



Recycle



Meat-free meals



Zero-waste fashion



Unplug



Refill and reuse



Bring your own bag

New schedules

I am pleased to report that the new schedules and timings for the school day have been implemented successfully. The break time swaps have worked well and provided students in all year groups with an opportunity to be outside. The earlier finish has also worked effectively, and I would like to thank families, and also students, for adapting to this so readily.

PSA Fundraising

The current restrictions have significantly restricted the PSA's usual fundraising activities for the school, but there are two events that I would like to draw your attention to. With Christmas approaching the PSA have secured a crop of wonderful items from local business which now form the Autumn PSA Auction. You are able to access this and bid for items by following the link [here](#).

The PSA have also teamed up with Christmas on the Hill, who will make a donation for the school on every Christmas tree sale that is placed through them using the code HWS20. Their web address is www.christmasonthehill.co.uk

National Restrictions and reporting Covid cases

The New National Restrictions will continue to apply until 2nd December. As mentioned before, these do put severe restrictions on meeting others outside of educational and workplace settings. Please reinforce this message with your children. I would also like to remind you that our "hotline" for reporting positive test results is: 0208 342 7975 and our "hot email" is covid@hws.haringey.sch.uk

With thanks for your continued support.

Regards



Patrick Cozier
Headteacher