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## Cheney Communications

11 February 2021

Dear Parents and Carers (and staff),

This is our last leadership update of the term and we want to take the opportunity to wish all our students, staff, supporters and their families a healthy and restorative half term break. Look after yourselves and remember school is closed to all students (unless specifically invited in) on Monday 22 February, for INSET.

### All Parents and Carers

**Free School Meal Vouchers over Half Term.** Following guidance from the government, Free School meal vouchers will be continued over the half term holiday using Wonder rather than Edenred. See Ms Hussain's letter attached for full details.

We are also attaching a suggestion from the Asda in Wheatley about how to get the most out of the £15 voucher, including a shopping list. This may be helpful, but please don't think we are doing advertising for Asda!

**Concern re County Lines Game.** In case you missed Mr Bampton's message last Thursday, please find it [on the website](#).

**Friends of Rumble from Dr Robinson.** I hope this finds you well amidst all the challenges of lockdown.

I'm delighted to announce that we're launching a new Friends of Rumble scheme for anyone who would like to support us and stay closely in touch with our work. For £30 per year (or as much as you feel you would like to offer), Friends will receive our weekly newsletter, priority seats at our talks and events, and invitations to displays and project opening events.

The Rumble Museum is based at Cheney School, and run by educational charity The Iris Project. It is unique in the UK. It is a fully accredited museum spread across the site of a busy, diverse and vibrant state school. Its collection ranges from stone age tools to modern day brain surgery instruments, with very many things in between.

You can find more information about our work by exploring our [website](#).

If you would like to become a Friend of Rumble, you can do so [here](#).

**Student Newsletter.** [Student Newsletter #6](#) explodes with artistic creations from Aisha (Y9) and Marianna (Y8), yummy food from Jasmin (Y10), plus a moving short story by Masha (Y7). Thank you to the SSLT for creating this marvellous slice of Cheney life.

**Rumble Museum Newsletter.** [Rumble Newsletter #5 08.02.2021](#)

**INSET Monday 22 February.** The school will be closed to all students, unless invited in for lateral flow testing or specific interventions, on Monday 22 February for INSET.

**Late Start Friday 26 February.** Following Year 8 Parents' Evening, there will be a slightly later start to virtual and in-school lessons for all students on Friday 26 February. School will be open from 8 am for key worker and vulnerable students as usual, but students need to be in school/on-line by 9 am rather than 8.30am.

#### Year 7 Parents and Carers

**Y7 Tree Letter Project.** As part of the [Rumble Museum](#) Tree Trail project, Year 7s are invited to write a letter to one of the fabulous trees on site at school - it can say anything you want, or it could be a poem or a piece of artwork. Email entries to Dr Robinson by 26 February. Find out more: <http://ow.ly/4ZxF50Du5h7> and find out about the Tree Trail project here: <http://ow.ly/EI2r50Du5os>

#### Year 8 - 10 Parents and Carers

**Year 8 HPV1 vaccinations.** The new vaccination session has been confirmed for Tuesday 23 February 2021 and the consent form closes on 19 February. **It is very important that Year 8 parents and carers read Mr Haines' [letter](#), sent yesterday**, to ensure student safety on the day.

**Year 8 Parents' Evening.** This will take place on Thursday 25 February. Please see Mr Haines' [letter](#) of 9 February for information and expect further details w/c 22 February.

**Year 8 and 9 Cheney Book Choice, from Mrs Fenton.** The next Cheney Book Choice selection is [Liclle Bit](#) by Alex Wheatle. This is the first book in the Crongton series of books. Crongton is a fictional South London council estate, and each book tells the story of a different teenage character as they navigate life in this tough but very believable environment. The language in these books is light, funny and very engaging and the characters are believable and real.

Liclle Bit is the title character of the book and the story is told through his eyes. He is a 15-year-old boy who fancies the hottest girl in his class but who ends up mixed up with the local gangs and their violent lifestyle. He's funny, honest and entirely relatable and you're really rooting for him by the end of the book.

As many of the students know, I am currently telling anyone who will listen to read the Crongton books and anything by Alex Wheatle; he has a new book out called Cane Warriors which tells the story of the Haitian slave riots of the 1800's. Wheatle's early life in Brixton was the subject of one of the Small Axe films which aired on the BBC before Christmas (an adult TV programme); his Twitter handle is [@brixtonbard!](#)

**Year 9 and 10 RE Revision Guides.** In order to support students with non-screen revision we have a number of revision guides available to purchase within the Humanities Faculty via ParentPay. An option has just been added for RE revision guides to be purchased by Year 9 students. They are still also available to Year 10 students at a discounted rate. If you order a revision guide we will leave them out for you to collect from the main school reception area.

**Year 10 Head of Student Progress.** We are delighted to announce that Lucy Jackson, whom many of you will know as Head of Music, has been appointed to take over from Manjula Pillay-Sayers as Head of Student Progress for Year 10. She will continue to be supported by Molly Yalci as Pastoral Leader, and will take up the role from immediately after half term. She will retain leadership of the Music department until the end of the year, and we know you will all join us in wishing her the very best of luck in this important role.

**Year 10 RE GCSE.** If you missed Mr Pavey's update about RE GCSE sent earlier this week, you can [find it on the website](#).

[Year 11 – 13 Parents and Carers](#)

**Open Events at Oxford City College and National Apprenticeship Week.** You will find [a letter](#) from Activate Learning about Oxford City College open events and National Apprenticeship Week on the website. We have been posting National Apprenticeship Week information all week on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), so please take a look.

You will find all our letters and notices on the [website](#) and/or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#).

Kind regards

Cheney Communications