

Cheney Communications

25 March 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and Sixth Form Students

All Parents and Carers

Lateral Flow Testing at home: please continue to do Lateral Flow Tests over the two weeks of the Easter holiday. Students will get another pack before we break up.

The guidance on whether to do a PCR test after a positive Lateral Flow Test has been confusing, and is different depending on whether the LFT was done in school or at home. The guidance now says that a positive test at home should be confirmed with a PCR test. Therefore, actions on a positive Lateral Flow Test at home should be:

- Student and the rest of the family should self-isolate.
- Inform school of the result.
- Book a PCR test.
- Continue self-isolating until the result comes back.
- If the PCR is negative, inform school and come back to class.
- If it is positive, continue to self-isolate.

End of term: because we have missed so much in-person teaching, the last day of term will be a normal school day, rather than an early finish. Our end of term celebration assemblies will be done in the normal year team assembly slot during tutor time, rather than taking up a lesson. Please remember that Friday 2nd April is a public holiday, and school will be closed.

Uniform: we have deliberately not made a big deal out of uniform since the return to school: there have been more important things on our agenda. However, the **uniform has not changed, and is not going to change.** In particular, hoodies are not allowed, PE kit should be in accordance with the guidelines, and skin-tight leggings and jeans are not ok.

We understand that teenagers like to push the boundaries on this (it doesn't matter where the boundaries are set, they will always push); equally teachers are never convinced by the look of total innocence and the phrase "but I thought we were allowed...", or "nobody told me..." It also doesn't matter if someone else is wearing the wrong uniform, or if a teacher has walked past without commenting: if Mr Pavey hasn't commented on jeans, it just means Mr Pavey hasn't noticed, or that there are other things higher up the priority list, not that jeans in school are now a thing. The mannequins in reception are available to give advice if anyone is confused. Etc.

Please use the Easter break to make sure that uniform is correct, and contact your year team if you are having difficulty.

Cheney2050: thank you to the incredible speakers who joined us yesterday for the Rumble Museum's Cheney2050 virtual event, and to the staff who worked behind the scenes to make it all happen. Above all, thank you to our Sixth Form students who contributed with enthusiasm, creativity and innovation.

The [Cheney2050 website](#) is now live and many parts of the site are open to everyone: enjoy an interactive exploration of Cheney's spectacular natural resources with the wonderful Tree Trail and visit the Ideas Wall as it gradually fills up with students' responses to the day.

Remote learning fundraising: we would like to thank the whole Cheney community for their support with our remote learning appeal, which we are now closing. We have raised the sum of £28,257.99, including Gift Aid on donations made via the Cheney Friends. This will allow us to provide a heavily subsidised laptop to every child eligible for Free School Meals, and will mean that we are able to retain many of the advantages of remote learning into the future.

Transition Welcome, 31 March: for families of Year 6 students joining us in September, our virtual Welcome Information Evening takes place on Wednesday 31 March. For details, please see [Mrs Hart's 2 March message](#) on the website.

GDPR and consents: in line with GDPR guidelines, we have updated the parental consent information for all students. Please see [Mr Bampton's letter of 23 March](#).

Library opening times: the library is now open after school until 5 every day except Fridays.

SHN newsletter: [Secondary School Health Team Newsletter Term 4 March 2021](#)

Student newsletter: [Cheney Student Newsletter #8](#)

Exam certificates: for families of students who have left Cheney, exam certificates are available for collection from school. See the [website](#) for full details.

Parents and Carers of Years 7-11

Relationships and sex education (RSE) programme: please see the [letter of 23 March](#) from Dr Bown and Ms Kavanagh regarding the RSE programme for Years 7-11. Parents and carers can feedback on the plans via our [survey](#).

Year 12 Parents and Carers

Exam certificates: GCSE certificates will be available to collect next week on Monday at break time, lunch-time and after school, from the roofed area outside Pam's Diner. Bring your own pen.

UCAS/Careers Information Evening: don't forget that students are invited to attend the virtual UCAS/Discovery Event on 20 April.

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

Kind regards

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