

Cheney Communications

24 June 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and Year 12 Students

Covid-19 update: Parents will probably have heard that we had three Covid cases in school recently: one in Year 7 and one in Year 10 yesterday and another one from Year 10 today. The cases in Year 10 were positive tests via a Lateral Flow device, and are being confirmed by a PCR test today. With transmission in the community running at the highest level since early March, I'm afraid we can expect more cases in school before the end of term.

From Monday, therefore, we are bringing back some of the Covid protocols from the previous wave:

- Masks will be compulsory inside buildings once again, including in class.
- The cleaning and ventilation regime is still in place, but it has slipped in recent weeks. If students work with staff to remind each other, we will get straight back to where it needs to be.
- We will need to reinforce the 'no physical contact' rule in the playground: sanctions will come back from Monday, although I hope that this will not be necessary.
- Because we know the Delta variant is significantly more transmissible, we are sending home anyone who has shared a class with a student who has tested positive. We learned from the arrival of the Kent variant in December that doing the 2m distance / seating plan puzzle was insufficient, and we never got in front of the outbreak.
- Classes will be online or livestreamed for any students who need to self-isolate. Please check the Google Classroom for instructions, and if there is a problem, please email the teacher concerned, copying in the appropriate year team, so we can sort it out.

Assessments for students self-isolating: with a few exceptions, assessments will continue as scheduled, as we do not have time to reschedule them before the end of term, and there is anyway a possibility that a different set of students will need to self-isolate later in term. In most cases, the same assessment, or an adapted version will be sat online at the same time as the rest of the class, and teachers will take this into account when marking the assessments. Departments will provide more detail, and will post instructions on their Google Classrooms.

Lateral Flow Tests: in the circumstances, doing regular LFT is very important. Test kits were sent home last week with students in line with the government guidelines to



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continue testing at home. Please remember to send in your results to the school using the [online form](#) as well as uploading results to the [NHS](#).

Summer Art Exhibition (12-15 July): you are warmly invited to Cheney School's Summer Art Exhibition which will be open from 12 to 15 July. So that we can manage numbers, please register to attend [here](#) by Sunday 11 July. We are very much looking forward to seeing you there to celebrate the creativity and resilience of our GCSE and A Level students! See our flyer attached.

Summer Show (19 July): the Summer Show, *A Night in the Cheney Bubble*, is back on with the new date of 19 July! Tickets are available now, so please [sign-up](#). Ms Jackson is still on the lookout for Raffle prizes, so if you have a donation you want to make, please let her know; lja@cheney.oxon.sch.uk. If you have a gazebo you would be prepared to loan to for the event, she would also love to hear from you. .

Y6 Meet the Tutor and Summer School (26-30 July): thank you to the Y6 families who attended our Meet the Tutor online event earlier this week. If you were unable to attend, we are gradually uploading the recordings to the [website](#). An email has been sent today with a [link for you to sign up](#) for summer school. **Please fill this in, even if you have already expressed interest**, as there are more specific details required. If you have any questions, please email Mrs Hart, eha@cheney.oxon.sch.uk.

Open Mornings: sadly, due to national restrictions, we have had to cancel the Open Mornings we had planned for Y5 students and their families on 6, 13 and 15 July. We hope to book some in for September: once we have dates, we will let the primaries know and update our social media and web.

Parents' Evenings: thank you for all the responses to the parents' evening survey. It seems likely that we will continue with online meetings in the future, and we will think about whether a mixture of the two would be at all feasible. We will be investigating some software which makes the booking system much easier, improves reliability and also closes meetings after 5 minutes. As promised, the results from the 121 responses are attached.

Student Engagement Review: as part of our annual review, we have created [a form](#) to canvass your views on student engagement. You may wish to talk to your child first before answering these questions to help inform your answers. This is a repeat from last week.

Website housekeeping: we will be making some minor changes to the navigation of the website over the coming weeks. This is a minor housekeeping exercise; the core information and look and feel will remain unchanged, but we are hoping to streamline some content and simplify the navigation.



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Boots2Africa: our Boots2Africa collection bin will be leaving us next week. This is your final weekend to have a look at home for any unwanted sports shoes and kit, including running kit and sports bras (clean kit & in good condition only). Masks on in reception please. <http://ow.ly/8uTr50ETC1Z>

Particulate Monitor: our Friends of the Earth particulate monitor is now up and running; you can see the data on the [Purple Air website](#).

Moth Night, 10 July: the Rumble Museum is holding Cheney's first ever Moth Night on 10 July. Due to the nature of the event, it is invitation only. However, we have five places available for any students who would like to book to attend. If you would like to attend, please email Dr Robinson on Iro@cheney.oxon.sch.uk and places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. All year groups are welcome.

Classics Summer School: the seventh annual Classics Summer School will take place on the mornings of 23, 24 and 25 August, at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney School. This year the summer school will be themed on ancient cities! For details see the [Classics Centre website](#).

[School Health Nurse Newsletter:](#) the latest newsletter from Oxfordshire NHS School Nurses has advice if your child missed their immunisations, info about child drug exploitation, FGM, festival safety, looking after your teeth and more, plus all the usual support information and tips.

[Rumble Museum Newsletter #12:](#) this week's Rumble Museum newsletter features the beautiful new hawksbill turtle display in Brighthouse, and gives a heads-up on the latest Museum Council project; exploring British butterflies and moths. Great timing for Insect Week 2021.

Parents and Carers of Years 7-9

Language choices for Y7 & 8: a reminder from Ms Reynes that some families have not yet completed the [KS3 language preferences for Y7 students](#) or the [KS3 language options for Y8 students](#). Please note the deadline for submission has already passed; if you have not already done so, please complete the appropriate form at your earliest convenience.

Y7 Museum Council invitation: we are recruiting a new group of students to take part in the Student Museum Council between September 2021 and July 2022. It involves a weekly breakfast meeting on Thursdays from 8.30 - 8.55am, as well as some trips outside of school hours.



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Students on the Museum Council are able to have a special involvement in the museum's work both within and beyond the school. Students have taken part in projects with local museums including running a gallery at a Late Opening at the Ashmolean and creating a display cabinet at the History of Science Museum, as well as developing projects and displays at Cheney itself, such as this year's Tree Trail.

If you would like to be involved, you will need to write a paragraph outlining why you would like to take part, and email this to Dr Robinson, lro@cheney.oxon.sch.uk, by **9 July**.

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

Kind regards

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