

Cheney Communications

30 September 2021

Dear Parents, Carers, Staff, Governors and Year 12 and 13 Students

Open evening: many thanks to all our visitors at last week's open evening, and to all the students who acted as guides. We had over 700 guests, and the atmosphere around school was lovely. It was a great pleasure to welcome people in person, and our students were a great credit to themselves and to the school.

Covid-19 update: the rate of transmission in school seems to be flattening; we have had fewer new cases in the last three days than previously. Our Lateral Flow testing of Years 7, 9 and 10 only brought a handful of cases to light in total. I am certain that this is not the last we have seen of the infection, but there does seem to be a bit of a pause. If this is sustained, we will be able to review mask wearing indoors next week, but for the moment, we will keep them on.

Flu and Covid vaccinations info: this autumn, the NHS is offering both flu and Covid vaccinations in school. The information below is relevant to all students in Years 7 - 11.

We now have the Covid consent and information letter, which is linked below.

Please note that there has been a minor change in schedule, meaning that Years 8 and 9 will now get both vaccinations on the same day. The dates for the vaccinations are now:

- Year 7 - Flu only on 13 October
- Year 8 and 9 - Flu and COVID on 13 October
- Year 10 and 11 - Flu and COVID on 19 October

Students who have had **Covid within the last 28 days are not eligible for the vaccine**. This means anyone who has tested positive on or after Wednesday 15 September for Years 7 and 8, or Tuesday 21 September for Years 10 and 11. After the 28 day period has passed, students can go to a normal vaccination clinic to get the vaccination if you choose.

Because there are two different vaccinations, you need to give consent twice; once for each vaccination. The letter sent earlier this week covers consent for the flu vaccination only.

[NHS Flu vaccination consent information and link](#)

[NHS Covid vaccination consent information and link](#)



CHENEY SCHOOL
Think for yourself, act for others

Headteacher: Mr Rob Pavey

Cheney School
Cheney Lane
Headington
OX3 7QH

Tel: 01865 765 726

Email: office@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

Mr Pavey's letter sent earlier this week (please use the amended dates above - the dates in this letter are now incorrect).

Lateral Flow Tests: additional kits for home testing were sent home last week. Please be aware that these are slightly different to the kits used last year in that they are **nasal only**. Please report results on the government website here: <http://ow.ly/FqwY50E2tit> and on our [new form here](#)

Covid vaccine research: we have had a request from the Oxford University vaccine research group to advertise a trial into the best regime of vaccination for 12-16 year olds. Below is some information from them, and links to the trial website.

We are looking for volunteers aged 12-16 years old who have received either 0 or 1 doses of the Pfizer Covid-19 vaccine to take part in our COVID-19 vaccine trial. The study involves 5-6 visits over a period of 12 months. The study's main website is on the following link: <https://comcovstudy.org.uk/home>

The purpose of this study is to test how well young people (aged 12-16 years) respond to two doses of COVID-19 vaccine, comparing three different vaccines at different doses. The study involves 5-6 visits to a clinic (Centre for Clinical Vaccinology and Tropical Medicine, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7LE) over approximately 12 months. Young people aged 12-16 years who have received either 0 or 1 doses of the Pfizer vaccine to date may be eligible to participate. Please see the link below for details of how to volunteer: <https://comcovstudy.org.uk/participate-oxford-comcov3>

Google Classrooms: [Google Classroom codes](#) for this year are now available for all parents and carers to view. They have been shared with students in Years 8-13 already and will be coming out to Year 7 students in the next few weeks:

Don't forget you can find out more about how Google Classrooms work (especially for Homework) by reading the [guide](#) on our website.

Year 10 Parents' Evening Thursday 14 October - School Cloud: in response to feedback from students, teachers and parents, we are introducing a new, intuitive and easy-to-use online system called School Cloud. This system allows you to book your own appointment times as well as easily attend online appointments, and is a step-up on our artisan attempts with Google Meets last year.

The first parents' evening that we will be using this system with is the Year 10 Parents' Evening on Thursday 14 October from 3:30 to 7:00pm. Appointments can be made from **Tuesday 5 October** 8am until the start of the event at 3:30 on Thursday 14. You can find support materials on how to use the system here: [_](#)



CHENEY SCHOOL
Think for yourself, act for others

Headteacher: Mr Rob Pavey

Cheney School
Cheney Lane
Headington
OX3 7QH

Tel: 01865 765 726

Email: office@cheney.oxon.sch.uk

<https://support.parentseveningsystem.co.uk/category/823-video-parents-evenings>

Please visit <https://cheney.schoolcloud.co.uk/> to book your appointments. To login, please use your child's details.

Because this is the first time we will be using School Cloud to book appointments and run parents' evening, we are keen to ensure that everyone has access and feels confident in its use. To allow us to understand the type of support we can offer, please complete this [short survey](#) and the Year 10 team will then be in touch.

Late start Friday 15 October: following Year 10 Parents' Evening on Thursday 14 October, there will be a slightly later start to lessons on Friday 15 October. Lessons start at 9.00 am but the school gates and canteen will be open from 8.00 am.

Overdue library books: Mrs Fenton has written to over 200 families this week to remind them about overdue library books. Please check your inboxes for her message. If your child has a library book that was borrowed before the summer break we urgently need its safe return to the library. Almost all of the outstanding books are popular loans that other students are waiting to read. If your child is not sure which books are outstanding, they can either check by logging into the [library app](#) on RM Unify or speak to the library staff.

Extra-curricular (clubs): our [extra-curricular listing for Term 1](#) is now available on the website. Please note Drama Club is on Tues/Thurs break time not Mon/Fri as previously stated.

Cheney Friends meeting: the first "Cheney Friends" meeting of this academic year will take place in Cheney library next Wednesday (6 October) 7- 8.30pm.

"Cheney Friends" is the name of the Cheney PTA. We'll be using the meeting (our first face-to-face gathering for 18 months!) to discuss and plan community/social events and fundraising opportunities over the coming year.

Anyone is welcome to join us - to find out more about what we do or to contribute fresh ideas; and it would be particularly nice to meet new Year 7 parents.

Just come to the school reception at 7pm.

It is helpful (but not essential) if you can email in advance to let us know you're planning on attending- at cheney.friends@yahoo.com. Please wear masks.

TA recruitment: we are seeking to appoint a Teaching Assistant to our Special Educational Needs team – full details on the [website](#).



Rumble Museum Breakfast Talk Series: this October, the Rumble Museum is running a series of breakfast talks by experts on Black History. The talks are open to all Year 12s and 13s, and are held in L14. Please email lro@cheney.oxon.sch.uk to book places.

Date	Speaker	Title
1 October, 8.30 - 9am	Dr Heike Schmidt, Reading University	History of African anticolonial nationalism
8 October, 8.30 - 9am	Warren Stanislaus, University of Oxford and Rikkyo University	UK Grime Music and Japanese Pop Culture
15 October, 8.30 - 9am	Dr Seraphin Kamdem, SOAS	African languages
22 October, 8.30 - 9am	Pamela Roberts, Black Oxford	Introduction to Black Oxford initiative

Community

Inspired by Insects on Silver Sunday at the Oxford University Museum of Natural History: as part of the national celebrations for Silver Sunday; this National Older People's Day event is for people of all generations to come together, meet new people and connect over fun and free activities, crafts, and specimens from the OUMNH collections and [HOPE for the Future Project](#). See attached flyer for details.

IF Oxford: the Science and Ideas Festival returns in October with 100 in-person and digital events for all ages. With a wide range of topics, ranging from the chemistry of cooking or coding your own lantern, to careers in medical research, there is something for everyone. All events are listed at www.if-oxford.com (poster attached).

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

Kind regards

Cheney Communications