

## **LEADERSHIP UPDATE - 20 January 2022**

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

**COVID:** You will probably already have heard that **masks are no longer necessary in classrooms**, which came into effect today. From next Thursday, masks will also no longer be necessary in communal areas. Any student who wishes to continue to wear a mask is of course encouraged to do so, and we will continue to have masks available for those that want one. All other measures, including testing, hygiene and ventilation are still in force and remain unchanged.

The **self-isolation period** is now 5 days, and can end with negative lateral flow tests on day 5 and the morning of day 6. No confirmatory PCR test is now needed following a positive lateral flow test.

We are getting close to needing a **partial closure**, because of levels of staff absence. We will remain fully open if it is at all possible, but I need to warn parents in **Year 8 and Year 9** that one or two days at home next week are possible. I am afraid that we will not be able to give much warning if we need to do this. Some key points are below:

- Students will need to work on Google Classroom.
- No live lessons will be taught, unless a teacher is self-isolating, but well enough to teach. Individual teachers will contact parents and students if this is the case.
- Teachers who would otherwise be teaching the affected years groups will be used in school to keep face-to-face education going, in specialism as far as possible.
- Year 11 and Year 13 will only close in the event of full lockdown. The priority order for partial closure is: Yr8, Yr9, Yr10, Yr7, Yr12 in that order.
- Skeleton school will remain open for any student who really needs to come in, for whatever reason. They will be provided with a Chromebook to allow them to access Google Classroom, but they will not be taught live lessons.

**Year 9 GCSE Options :** You should have received the form for submitting GCSE option preferences. Please ensure you submit your choices by TOMORROW, Friday 21 January.

[Options Booklet](#)

**Developing Green spaces at Cheney:** Come to the next Cheney Friends evening TONIGHT, Thursday 20th Jan at 7pm. Venue: school library

**Sixth Form applications** : The deadline for Sixth Form applications is TOMORROW, Friday 21 January.

[Find out more about our Sixth Form](#)

[Apply now](#)

**Year 12 Parents Evening:** Thursday 27th January is Parents' evening from 5 to 7pm. This is an opportunity for you to meet with your child's teachers to discuss their progress and any concerns you, or they, may have. In year 12, this is an excellent opportunity to discuss how students have settled into their new courses and any improvements they need to make in their study habits so they can fulfil their potential. It is also a good time to talk about possible grades for the end of Year 13 as this will help students as they start exploring their next steps which might be apprenticeships or university. For university applications the UCAS form should be finished in October 2022 so now would be a good time to start planning.

The parents evening will be online via School Cloud. All appointments can be booked via [School Cloud](#) now. To login, please use your child's details. [You can find support materials on how to use the system here.](#)

**Bells and punctuality:** one of our problems around school is with students being slightly late to lessons. Sometimes, this is for good reason, but it is more often due to a preference for basketball, chatting or the scenic route. We are therefore going to add a 'start of lesson' bell to the 5 minute warning bell, and anyone arriving after this second bell will be marked as late, which will attract an after-school detention. I strongly hope that our students will get the message, and we will not need to issue any detentions at all for lateness. I hope that the increased clarity will actually lead to fewer detentions for lateness being issued. From Monday, the bells will therefore ring at:

- 0825 and 0830
- 1125 and 1130
- 1355 and 1400

**Year 11 PHSE Lessons:** We are writing to let you know that, from Monday 31 January all students in Year 11 will be taking part in a series of six PSHE lessons which will be delivered during science classes by science teachers. Please see the attached letter for full details.

[Rumble Museum Newsletter #24](#) In this week's Rumble newsletter, the Museum Council discover the stories inspired by Oxford sites, ready for an exciting new project, and classicists from Year Eight to Thirteen experience Greek stories vividly retold by critically acclaimed storyteller Ben Haggarty

[Article about the Rumble Museum in Museum ID Magazine](#)

Community: [Black Excellence Project](#): Launching 15 Jan 2022 and open to everyone aged 16+. Develop your creative and academic skills and talents. Work with specialist and industry professionals and explore your identity and heritage through workshops, projects and trips! Saturday mornings 10.30 - 1pm. [See the flyer for details](#)

You will find all our letters and notices on the [website](#) and/or on [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#). Leadership Update translations will be made available [here](#).

You can also now follow the Mrs Fenton's new Cheney library twitter account @cheney\_library

Kind regards

Cheney Communications