

LEADERSHIP UPDATE - 3 February 2022

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

Partial school closure: this week, we had to ask Year 8 and Year 9 to work from home for two days each. This is because of very high staff absence rates; at the time of writing we have more than 25 members of staff absent. Some staff are starting to return from self-isolation, but many have not had two negative tests at the end of the five days, and are therefore having to extend the period they are away. We are also getting more staff testing positive on a daily basis.

We may well have to ask Year 10 to stay at home on Monday and Tuesday next week. We will make a decision by lunchtime on Friday, and get in touch with parents before the end of the day to confirm. If the situation has not improved, the next year group will be Year 7 on Wednesday and Thursday. We understand how disruptive this is, and we will not do this if we have a choice.

Year groups who are at home will work from their Google Classrooms. Although there will be no live lessons, we recommend sticking to the timetable, as teachers have been asked to set some work that needs to be submitted at the end of every lesson, to show that students have engaged with the material. It is not a two day Playstation and Tik Tok marathon.

River Learning Trust: although it will make no day-to-day difference to students, we formally joined RLT on 1st February. Transferring trust is a surprisingly large amount of work, and we are very grateful to the trustees of CSAT, all the staff at Cheney and at RLT who have made it possible.

There is still a lot to do behind the scenes, very little of which will be visible. One thing that will affect parents is that we are changing our information management system from Arbor to Bromcom on March 21st. We will give lots more information about this after half term.

[HPV Vaccinations at Cheney:](#) The School Immunisation team will be at Cheney school to delivery HPV vaccinations to students in Year 8 and 9 for whom they have consents on the following dates:

HPV1 - Year 8 - 1 March 2022

HPV2 - Year 9 - 18 March 2022

[Information Letter](#)

[School Librarian of the Year award](#): Many of you will know our wonderful school librarian, Mrs Fenton. We're excited to announce that she has been longlisted for the School Librarian of the Year award. As part of her submission, we have made a video to show some of the impact she has on staff and students. [Watch the Video](#)

[Schools vs Climate Change](#): We're taking part in the Schools vs Climate Change initiative this year. Students will get full details during tutor time and will be able to record (and get house points for) a variety of activities, including walking/cycling to school and eating meat-free meals.

[Cheney Special Branch](#): Across the Cheney community we know there is a huge wealth of skill and knowledge in the environmental sector, relating to all aspects of sustainability. As a school we'd like to be able to call on community members to help us ensure our students are informed, equipped and empowered to deal with the climate and ecological emergency they face. It's a big and complicated challenge and we're grateful for all the support we can get.

We are hoping to hear from people with a really wide range of know-how. Perhaps you know how to patch a school jumper or sew up school trousers or maybe you are an experienced gardener. Maybe you work in mental health and have an understanding of eco-anxiety or you are a doctor, who could explain the link between good health and low carbon lifestyles. You might work installing renewable energy sources or as an academic, directly researching climate change. Whatever your expertise, if you feel it is relevant to climate and nature then we would love to hear from you. We don't ask for any commitment, just permission to get in touch with you if we think you might be able to help. If you'd like to be involved, or want to know more, please fill out [this form](#).

[Classlist for Parents](#): A reminder for all parents to join Classlist, set up by Cheney Friends as a way to connect with other parents.

[Sports News](#)

[House News and Competitions](#)

[Rumble Museum](#)

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](#)

Kind regards

