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Learning Together – Empowered for Life

Dear parents and carers

Thank you for your support with the wholescale return to wearing of face coverings in the communal indoor areas of

school. As you can imagine, reminders need to be made on occasions, not least because we'd perhaps all got used to not wearing them, but the students' understanding and acceptance of the need for masks has been first class. Year 7 students, of course, have not had this experience in school, but they have adapted well. Can I please put out a renewed plea to parents and carers to ensure that your child has a face covering (and preferably a few spares in their bag too) with them every day? A quick reminder before they leave the house in the morning is also really helpful. We have issued spares at the gate where necessary, but supplies are becoming very limited. We are also very keen to avoid this becoming a bigger issue if the same child were to repeatedly forget to bring their own. I am very grateful for all the support you can offer with this. We are told that the national guidance will be reviewed within three weeks, although do bear in mind that current case numbers in Hart are significantly higher than the national average.



In addition and by way of prior notice, secondary schools have been instructed that we must once again conduct a lateral flow test for all students on their return to school in January. We are working on the logistics at the moment, but the priority for return has to be Year 11, who come straight back into mock exams and which need to be underway as soon as possible on Tuesday 4th January. Given the staffing requirement for the LFD tests and of course invigilation, it is inevitable that we will need to have a staggered start during the first day (4.1.22). As we had to do on the September return, we will need to have some year groups learning online that day and coming into school at intervals just to complete the LFD test and then return home. All students will be learning onsite by the start of business on Wednesday 5th January. I will have details published for parents and carers by Wednesday 8th December.

Extra-Curricular. On a more upbeat note – despite the increased restrictions, I am delighted to report that the extra-



curricular activity in our school is going on in leaps and bounds. There are sports activities pretty much every day and Drama, Music, Dance and other activities continue apace. We have, of course, had to stop large audiences for the time being on evening events, but all of these will transfer seamlessly online. The House Drama competition next Wednesday will still perform and be judged, albeit not to a public audience. It will be filmed and made freely available to family and friends. Similarly, preparations are being made for the Music concert

to be rehearsed, performed and then the recorded video shared. The students will still get to perform and families will still get to enjoy the show! As you'd imagine (and in anticipation of a live audience), rehearsals for House Dance and Main School production are continuing as normal.











Sixth Form



With two more students invited to interview at Oxford we now have a record number of potential Oxbridge students within a year group

Phoebe Shea – Law (Oxford); Ciaran Donegan - Biology (Oxford University)

Medicine: In addition, enormous congratulations go to Amy Capp for being invited to interview for Medicine at the University of Bristol

Thames Valley Police Apprenticeship: Further congratulations go to Tom Branch (Head Boy) on successfully being invited to stage two of his application to join the Thames Valley Police. To get through stage 2, especially given the huge volume of applicants is a real achievement and we wish him every luck in his application.



Apprenticeships: We are very excited to see so many of our students making applications for degree

level apprenticeships with applications to BBC, Rolls Royce and Sky Early Careers. The list below captures an indication of the number of apprenticeships our students are currently looking at. If your place of work are offering, or would like to offer apprenticeships which may be suitable for our Sixth Form students, please email Mr Conway and let us know. <u>andrew.conway@yateley.hants.sch.uk</u>

Amazing Apprentices (over 220 apprenticeship vacancies): click here Amazing Apprenticeship Parent and Carers Pack: click here University of Exeter degree apprenticeships: click here Sky Early Careers: <u>click here</u> BBC 'Getting In': click here Earn While you Learn (engineering and technology): click here Apprenticeships (UKGOV): click here Apprenticeship Fair 30/03/22: click here Hampshire and Isle of Wight Firefighters: click here Hartley Wintney Fire Brigade Recruitment Day – Saturday 11th December 11.00 -15.00: click here Zurich Insurance Apprenticeships: click here Vodaphone Apprenticeships: click here Lifetime Apprenticeships (search their vacancies): click here South Oxfordshire Council Apprenticeships: click here Not Going To Uni (4,012 opportunities): click here BDO Apprenticeships (accounting/finance): click here NHS Apprenticeships: click here



Student of the week is Maya Sharkey in 11PN. 172 shoe boxes and present wrapping later, Maya has given Mrs James the most extraordinary and much appreciated help. Due to their efforts, Step by step will be receiving the Christmas boxes and food parcels this year. The generosity of our families and the hard work, kindness and determination of students like Maya will make a real difference this Christmas to families who need the help the most. I would also like to extend my warm thanks to Mrs James who has masterminded the whole thing. More details on this next week!

Yours sincerely

Paul German Headteacher















Mobile Phone, Ear/Headphones, Toilet Usage Update – As from Monday 6th December

Please remember that the updated guidance on mobile phones and toilet usage in school comes into action on Monday 6th December. All students have now been informed of the

expectations is tutor time this week. For further details please see the below resources:

- KBL Video to Students <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- KBL PowerPoint to Students <u>CLICK HERE</u>
- Details Guide sent to Parents and Staff <u>CLICK HERE</u>



Student Attendance

We know that some students attendance has been effected negatively by COVID related issues, and some also down to the normal winter colds etc. Please can we ask where possible for students to be attending school unless of course they are isolating or really unwell and reman in bed. Currently the national attendance figure to the week beginning

22nd November was 90.1% where as Yateley Schools attendance figure was 92.4% (+2.3% better than national). We need to keep this up to ensure the best chances and learning experiences for our students, because of course nothing can replace the learning experience from the classroom.



Christmas Charity Boxes

We are collecting again this Christmas for our Elderly community. Each tutor group has been assigned the task to fill 2 or 3 gift bags for us to deliver. This is the 3rd year we have done this now and it means so much to the elderly residents in Yateley. We have added the list of ideas that we have shared with students, these are just suggestions please feel free to think of other items.

Closing dates for donations is Wednesday 8th December.

Ideas for the gift bag could be Chocolates; Smellies; Hats; Gloves; Scarves; Biscuits; Mini jars; Note pads; Pens; Homemade treats – Edibles must include ingredient's; Small Christmas decorations; etc

If you have any questions please contact Mrs Short <u>Samantha.short@yateley.hants.sch.uk</u>













Year 5 Maths Challenge



On Friday last week, the Maths department were joined by some very special guests.

We had some brilliant year 5 Mathematicians from our local primary schools - Westfields (Westfield Mathmagicians), Potley Hill (The Potley Players), Hawley (The Hawley Heroes) and Newlands (A fraction ahead).

They all took on an exciting Maths Challenge, on a quest to earn the most money by travelling to distant planets. They needed to use their mathematical knowledge to convert currencies before buying and selling food, fuel, minerals and cloth to make the maximum profit. All teams put in an amazing effort but the Westfield Mathmagicians managed to get the most credits and won this round.

We will be running more Maths Challenges this year and look forward to welcoming them back soon!

I would like to thank a wonderful group of year 7s who helped me with this. Rayees Brown, Oliver Casselton, Emily Gray, Sophie Joyner, Harry Lee, Aidan McGeachie, Henry Newell and Ryan Stoliar, all of who were amazing planets for a morning!



Mrs Perrett, Maths Department







STEM Ambassadors Laser Cutting Master Class

We had another STEM Master Class this week, where students designed and made laser cut Christmas Decorations, learning how to use CAD/CAM Technology with the addition of LED fairy lights!



We were so impressed by the creative talent shown again by students, ranging from year 7 to year 13. Congratulations everyone #drivenbydesign

Miss Williams Design and Technology



The Next STEM Master Class is on-

Tue 7th Dec 3.10- 4.15pm in A21 Mrs McCarthy Woodlice Behaviour

This week's sports results



Basketball

U13 v Amery Hill won 26-4, in their first game of the season, well done to all that took part. MVP: F.Edwards

Fixtures the week beginning 6th Dec

Tues 7th KS3 Girls' Badminton tournament @Court moor School

Thursday 9th KS3 Boys' Badminton tournament @ Robert Mays School

Mrs Kerrie Evans, Head of Physical Education















It's beginning to look a lot like Christmas.....

Look out for more to come from the **Design and Technology** department!

Designed and made in Yateley

















CTOD

















Answer to Maths Corner 10 – Find the Goal 32 Goals













