



11th March 2022

Dear parents and carers,

Thank you for your support over the last 2 weeks.

We have been so proud of the way our Year 11 students have approached their Mock Exams. They have demonstrated resilience and determination, and their teachers have been very impressed by their progress and achievements. These exams will now provide a platform as they prepare for their external exams in the summer.

Thank you to parents who attended Parents Forum last week and as always provided valuable and constructive feedback, and parents and community members who attended our PTA meeting – plans are now in place for an Alderman White Summer Fair. Year 7 parents and carers will have received information about booking appointments at our Remote Year 7 Subject Parents Evening on Thursday 24th March; please note that some teachers teach multiple Year 7 classes and unfortunately will not be able to meet all parents of students who they teach.

You may have noticed the scaffolding on the “tower” part of the school building. The work to replace the old single glaze windows in the admin block and parts of the main block is nearing completion. Despite the disruption it is much appreciated and significantly improving insulation, ventilation and the appearance of our site. We can’t wait to see how it looks when the scaffolding is removed, which is scheduled for the Easter holidays! This will see the start of the work to replace our boilers as well as the radiators, heaters and pipework in the main building which will run throughout the summer term. As always, the students are being very responsible and taking the disruption in their stride.

We have also been doing some important work to reorganise and update our website so it is useful place to find information for parents, students and other visitors. The Curriculum area of the main menu is being developed to provide you with an understanding of what we teach, why, how and when. Please have a look – we would welcome feedback about what else you would find useful!

Thursday 3rd March was World Book Day, was a great opportunity to celebrate our love of books and reading with an assembly by Miss Zhang, lots of tutor room doors decorated as book covers, students enjoying a “jackanory” style DEAR time recorded by staff, “blind date with a book” where students selected a book to borrow from the library based on a brief description only, and a number of staff dressed as book characters.

On Friday 4th March we held our emergency fundraising and awareness day to support the International Committee of the Red Cross Ukraine Appeal, raising a phenomenal £1389.65. This week, we have collected items as part of an appeal by a local Ukrainian Church which will go to support people fleeing the war – thank you for your generosity. We will continue to support students to talk about what is taking place and to address concerns and worries. This webpage gives useful advice to students and parents:

<https://www.childline.org.uk/get-involved/articles/worrying-about-russia-ukraine/>

This week we have marked International Women’s Day, Hydration and Nutrition Week with an assembly from Mr Lea, and Careers Week with the launch of the START programme to all Year 7-9 students. As this is a web based programme, your child can log in at home and show you the website and what they have done so far. This will be a useful programme in helping them to explore and understand careers and employability.

Next Friday (18th March) is Comic Relief when we will be holding our planned non-uniform day. Students may wear non-uniform day in exchange for bringing £1. Students and staff are all busy preparing for our Concert and long awaited production of The Tempest.

Coronavirus Update

After a quiet couple of weeks, 10 students and 4 adults have tested positive for coronavirus in the last 5 days. 3 of the students are in Year 7, 4 in Year 9, 1 in Year 10 and 2 in Year 11. We continue to follow government guidance and do encourage staff and students to test regularly, especially if they know they have been a close contact. Students and staff must stay at home and have a PCR test if they have a cough, temperature or loss of smell / taste, and should only attend site if they are unwell if they do not have a household case and have had a negative lateral flow test taken that morning. Lateral flow tests can still be ordered for free for the gov.uk website until the end of this month.

<https://www.gov.uk/order-coronavirus-rapid-lateral-flow-tests>

We continue to allow and encourage the wearing of face coverings alongside our other protective measures, which you can find here:

<https://aldermanwhite.school/parents-and-students/covid19-info>

I hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend.

Yours faithfully,

Mrs A Mellors

Headteacher

Key Dates

Friday 18th March: Comic Relief

Tuesday 22nd March: Night at the Movies Spring Concert

Thursday 24th March: Year 7 Remote Subject Parents Evening

Monday 28th March – Friday 1st April: World Autism Acceptance Week

Tuesday 29th – Thursday 31st March: The Tempest Production

Wednesday 30th March: Year 8 Reports published

Please see the calendar on our website for other dates:

<https://aldermanwhite.school/parents-and-students/calendar>

