



Samuel Cody School

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7th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

I am writing to update you on the Covid-19 situation as well as on things that have been happening in school and setting out the plans for the rest of this term. It only seems like yesterday that we were coming back after the Christmas break, and now here we are, nearly at half term and already half way through the academic year.

You will be aware that as a school we have been managing many more cases of COVID-19 within our school population since returning to school and have been working really hard to keep things as normal as possible. I would like to say a big thank you for all the amazing testing that you have been doing at home to help keep the school safe. It is vitally important that you notify us if your child tests positive, even if this occurs during a school holiday. Testing continues to play a huge part in stopping Covid-19 spreading throughout our school and local communities. In order to help with this task the school is offering surge testing when we have a confirmed positive case and close contacts within school. If you have not yet signed up for this option please contact Mr Tyreman. Please continue to use the Covid-19 hotline contact number to let us know of any positive Lateral Flow tests so that we can swiftly test those who have been close contacts and to order more testing kits for saliva or lateral flow. Our Saliva testing program is continuing and there are new testing kits on the way to you. If you lose your bar codes or your supplies are running low, please let us know earlier, as it takes 10 days to get a new set from the NHS. If you have any concerns, please email Mr Tyreman at: g.tyreman@samuelcodyhants.sch.uk

Earlier this half term we had to cancel a number of coffee mornings due to outbreaks in both primary and secondary buildings. Our next coffee morning is for YR 11 parents and will be held on Wednesday 16th February at 9:15am. Please let us know in advance if you wish to attend and undertake an LFD test that morning. The next primary coffee morning will be on Wednesday 9th March at 9:00am and YR 10 parents can also attend on that day at 09:15. Again, please let us know if you will be attending and LFD test before you arrive.

There are several trips and visits taking place this term. YR 8 have just returned from the New Forest and future trips have been planned to include a YR 10 residential trip to the Isle of Wight in February and a YR 9 Isle of Wight residential trip in March. YR 7 will have their own mini-residential experience here in school during the summer term. All students need to undertake an LFD test before going away on a day trip or residential. This is really important, due to the confined nature of our travel arrangements and to enable us to prevent outbreaks in school.

Several trips are in place for our primary pupils including visits to a local garden centre and a local post-office and the local community. These will include trips to the park, shops and the opportunity to explore transport links in the area. Please be mindful that different activities

are built into each year group's timetable to ensure that there are appropriate links with the curriculum and therefore not all year groups will be participating on trips at the same time. A primary enrichment curriculum is in the process of being planned as we speak. This will begin after half-term. Further information will be sent out in due course. Our secondary enrichment curriculum is going well and the YR 8's will be embarking on their off-site enrichment activity to Horseshoe Lake commencing the week after February half-term.

Several non-uniform days have been planned around memorable dates. You will be notified of these as we go through the term. Future plans for the school include a visit from the mobile farm, day trips out to the zoo, and various enterprise and STEM days, as well as a celebration for our pupils and students of the Queens Platinum Jubilee later in the year.

A whole school face to face parents evening is planned for Wednesday 30th March. Primary parents will be able to book appointments for that evening with their child's tutor between 3pm and 6pm and secondary parents will be able to book an appointment with their child's tutor between 5pm and 8pm. As agreed this first face to face meeting will be with form tutors only, with us hopefully moving to individual subject appointments in our last parents evening later in the academic year. Please LFD test before arriving.

At the beginning of April, you will be receiving an end of spring term report for your child. This will be sent home via the students in their school bags. You will be sent a text to confirm that they have been given to students, so please check bags on their arrival at home. YR 9 parents will receive an indication of what level of qualification, teaching staff feel is accessible by the student. This is to help inform parents and carers of appropriate options pathways moving into KS4. Parents and carers will have a face to face options appointment with a senior member of staff in the summer term to firm up their child's pathway to success.

Please can I remind you that we have an inset day booked for Monday 14th March 2022, when the school will be closed to all pupils and students for essential staff training.

Finally, thank you all again for supporting the school and keeping the students safe.

Yours sincerely



Mrs S Chinnappa
Headteacher
Samuel Cody School