



Principal's Weekly Update

Friday 26th February 2021

Getting Back to School

This week the government announced that schools across the country would be reopening their gates and children of all ages would return to live lessons.

We are delighted about this news and the staff team have been working frantically this week so that we can open for **all pupils and students** from 8.30am on Monday 8th March.

To do this safely we will be **testing Secondary students twice next week** and then again on the first week back when they return. You will have all received two dates for testing next week.

The response from our school community has been incredible. I have been blown away by the positivity and upbeat response from parents, pupils and students.

Early this week it had been announced that some Kent schools had no more than 30 – 45% of their community agreeing to take the Lateral Flow Tests.

These tests are in place to keep us all safe, it is as simple as that.

That is why I am delighted at the response from our Academy community. We, once again, have shown the unity and sense of social responsibility that is needed as we prepare to reopen the school.

We are updating the measures that will be needed to keep the Academy as safe as possible and will be sharing these with pupils next week.

When pupils and students return we will not be talking about lost learning... we will talk about learning.

We will not be talking about catch-up... we will talk about progress.

We will focus on what comes next, and do what we need to do.

Have a great weekend everyone.
5 days of home-schooling left!

Damian McBeath
Principal

90%+
Permission for testing

'It doesn't hurt. It's alright, it keeps everyone safe.'

Ellie, Year 10 (regarding the LF testing at school)

What will happen next week?



IGNITE Challenge Day

Yesterday staff pupils and students once again switched off their screens and enjoyed another IGNITE challenge day. We thought we would share some samples of work.



GCSE Options (Y8)

This week, Subject Leaders held a total of 8 Teams **LIVE** sessions. It was an opportunity for them to share more information about each of the different subjects to help the Year 8 students with their option choices.

A massive thank you to all the teachers who gave up their time this week to speak to students and answer the fantastic questions posted by them during the sessions.

TJWA Student Cook Book



A Message from the Chaplain

So, lockdown starts to ease on 8th March; schools return and other things will gradually start to get back to some sort of normal over time. I guess everybody will have a different feeling about that. For some it will be "Yay, I can't wait. Let's do this", some will be anxious and there will be many others at various points in between. We just need to be aware of everybody's individual feelings and thoughts around this. My favourite Bible verse is from Saint Paul's Letter to the Church in Colossae and I think is appropriate as we prepare to start meeting people again:

Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Over all these qualities put on love and let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts.

Mr I Rich, Academy Chaplain (Irish@thejohnwallisacademy.org)

Keeping Connected



Local update COVID-19

Ashford

66 cases per 100,000 people in the week
15th Feb –21st Feb 2021.

The average area in England had 103

(source Department of Health and Social Care, via BBC.co.uk)

