

11 December 2020

lrr/jcl/stjcovid19.11122020

Dear Parents and Carers

## ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

As we enter our last week of term 2 it does feel strange not to be able to comment on the usual festive showcase events that we would normally have run. Instead, we have had to be focussed on staying open and keeping the site safe for all our staff and students as well as ensuring we comply with all the necessary regulations. So far it has paid huge dividends in terms of school attendance, but we are about to enter a very tricky period and we all need to maintain our high standards and keep vigilant. You will also be aware of the fact that today we had to send our first student bubble home for the remainder of this term. I cannot stress enough just how important it now is for all of us to follow the guidance as any positive case from this point on could mean students and staff potentially having to isolate on Christmas day.

The Government announced earlier this week that schools would remain directly involved in the Track and Trace programme effectively up to and including Christmas Eve. In light of the guidance from Public Health England (PHE), these are the steps that we expect to have to take if we are made aware of a positive case:

- All students and parents in the year group affected will be made aware of a positive case. Their son or daughter is likely to need to self-isolate from the date symptoms were shown by the student directly involved.
- If the student travelled on a bus, we will take advice from PHE as to whether we inform other students on that bus. These students could well be required to self-isolate if it is felt that protective measures were compromised.

I am aware that there could be some significant disruption for families if we have to follow this guidance. **It is really important that in our final week of term, students who are feeling unwell in anyway do not attend school.**

### **Notification of confirmed or suspected COVID-19 cases**

It remains vital you let the school know through the COVID-19 email - [covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk](mailto:covid-19@stjohns.excalibur.org.uk) if you have any pandemic related concerns we need to be aware of. This is particularly important if you need to take a test or have a positive case. We also continue to keep up to date our dedicated area on the school website which can be found at: <https://www.stjohns.excalibur.org.uk/latest-covid-19-information/>.

We are fortunate enough to have an Academy Nurse at St John's who monitors these concerns regularly and the sooner we know, the sooner we can take action.

Please follow the guidance in letters sent out earlier today as to what to do if you think you or another member of your household is developing symptoms of COVID-19. It is important too to stress that guidance is changing all the time, so please do follow the guidance as set out in all the links contained in our correspondence.

The Twitter feed continues to be a very useful way of staying in touch with what St John's are doing in the community, so please follow that and re-tweet if you wish.

### **Remote Learning Reminder**

Show My Homework (SMHW) is the central point where all work and/or lessons will be either set or signposted. Students will have work according to their usual timetable. Work for a particular day will be set on SMHW the previous evening and students should expect to be working during the normal school day wherever possible. The work set will be a mixture of recorded sessions, live teaching and offline work. Any live teaching will be mentioned on SMHW and will happen on MS Teams.

Students should:

- Check SMHW and their school email account at least once a day
- Be contactable during the school day
- Complete work to the deadline set by teachers
- Seek help if they need it, from teachers or teaching assistants. This may be through email, MS Teams or SMHW
- Alert teachers if they're not able to complete work
- Attend any live sessions. If this is not possible to watch the recording of the live session
- Take a break from learning and devices during break and lunchtime

### **Roadworks in Marlborough**

Please be aware that there will be sewer works in Marlborough at the junctions of London Road, Salisbury Road and George Lane from Friday 11<sup>th</sup> December for approximately five days.

### **Christmas Jumper Day on Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> December**

In support of 'Save the Children' this year our senior students are promoting this worthy cause. For a donation of £1, students can wear a Christmas jumper over their uniform instead of a blazer. This is not a non-uniform day so students should be in their own uniform but with the addition of a Christmas jumper. The jumper can be shop bought, adapted (ie. a Christmas picture added). Students that choose not to wear a jumper must be in their full school uniform.

As always, I hope that you and your family continue to keep safe and don't forget that school closes at 1220 on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

With kindest regards



**Mr I Tucker**  
**Principal**

