



11<sup>th</sup> September 2020

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Dear Parents and Carers

## ST JOHN'S MARLBOROUGH – COVID 19

We have enjoyed a good week and I can continue to report very positively on the way in which the students and staff are enjoying school and making up for lost time. As you will be aware, the nation moves into a new phase with the 'Rule of Six' which as yet does not appear to alter any of the ways we work in school. We follow the updates regularly and consider the implications for our school all the time but if anything does change, we will continue to inform you in a timely manner. One point to bring to your attention is that since we have been back, we have received some concern from residents and local businesses about the numbers of students in transit around Marlborough. Your help in guiding our young people on this will ensure they don't receive unwarranted criticism throughout the next phase of dealing with this pandemic. This will help us reinforce our message.

There are a number of points I would like to include in this week's letter:

### Facemasks

As mentioned last week, we are now selling good quality, washable facemasks in Reception. Our original supply had to be changed so the ones we now have will cost **£2**. Students can also purchase a disposal one for **£1** if they would prefer. The arrangements for those entitled to financial support still remain. It is a requirement that we all wear face masks in indoor communal and covered areas with the exception of the classroom and whilst eating and drinking.

### E-Safety

Staff have received safeguarding training and there has been a particular emphasis on supporting young people and their mental health. Young people are being told about where to access support if they have any worries or concerns. Students are being reminded about the school routines and expectations and they will be reminded about online safety and appropriate use of mobile devices through assemblies next week. We would like to ask parents to have regular chats with their children about what they are doing online and encourage them to talk to them or a trusted adult if they have any worries. Please pass on any concerns to us as this is an important area to work together on.

### Uniform

The students look very smart in their uniform and it is a critical part of our identity. Please ensure that students only come into school in PE kit on days that they have PE or Games and that they are wearing the expected uniform.

### Letters and communication

Please be aware of a number of important letters that will be coming out along with this one from me. They include:

- Information regarding KS3 Design and Technology Classes
- Essential Parent information including information on uniform policy, medical needs, emergency conditions
- Information regarding the St John's Fund 2020-2021

Please ensure that you read them and keep them safe as they form a part of our annual induction and update processes.



**Open Evenings and Parent/Carer Evenings**

These will all need to be held differently for the time being, but we intend to keep to the scheduled dates. The Open Event for prospective Year 7 parents will be held virtually on the 8<sup>th</sup> October and we will be writing to you all soon regarding the way we intend to use technology to help us carry out parent/carers evenings for the foreseeable future. Dates for all these events can be found on the calendar function of our school website.

As ever, I hope that you and your family continue to keep safe.

Yours faithfully



**Ian Tucker**  
**Principal**