

Hele's School

A great place to learn. A great place to grow.



Friday, 28 May 2021

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wrote mid-week regarding term 6 expectations, so I won't dwell on those again here. I do appreciate your support in working with the school to ensure high standards for your children, however. Below are some important reminders before we break for half-term this afternoon.

Lateral Flow Testing and contact tracing over May half term: As lockdown eases, taking a rapid COVID-19 test twice a week, even if you do not have symptoms, will help us stay ahead of the spread of the virus, particularly as new strains appear. Around 1 in 3 people with COVID-19 have no symptoms and are spreading the virus without knowing.

We want to thank you for your continued support in testing. *Please do continue to test twice weekly over half-term and ensure your child tests before returning to school after the holiday.*

Reporting results is easy. Go to [report a COVID-19 lateral flow test result](#) or call 119 free from a mobile or landline.

It is important that school is informed of a positive COVID-19 result throughout half-term and parents and carers are asked to use the COVID-19 reporting form in the 'Contact Us' section of the Hele's School website [here](#) to do this; please do not leave a message on the school's answerphone, as this will not be checked until after half-term. A senior member of staff will be alerted immediately to any submission of the online form and will then pick the reported case up and contact you to check on your child's wellbeing and to confirm details. Where students test positive having developed symptoms within 2 days of being in school, you will then be asked to assist in identifying close contacts to advise self-isolation, as the child may have been infectious whilst in school.

Staffing changes: We are looking forward to welcoming Emily Hunt to the teaching team at the start of next term. Ms Hunt is employed as a teacher of Creative and Performing Arts and will be teaching Drama, Music and Art from September. For next term, however, she will be delivering bespoke, therapeutic support sessions with individuals and small groups of young people as part of our Covid recovery plan. This will be delivered through the medium of Drama to build confidence and self-esteem and to remove barriers to learning.

Dates for your diary next term:

- Year 7 Parents' Evening (via MS Teams) – Wednesday 9th June 4 – 7pm.
- Westcountry Schools Trust Staff Training Day (non-pupil day across all WeST schools) – Monday 21st June.
- Year 10 and Year 12 exams – Tuesday 22nd June – Friday 2nd July
- Arts Evening (an extravaganza of Art, Drama and Music for parents and carers of Year 9 and above) - 6th July, 4 - 6.30pm. Further details to follow next term but hold the date - you're in for a treat!
- End of Term 6 - Friday 23rd July.

On behalf of all at Hele's School, I'd like to wish all our families a restful half-term. We look forward to welcoming everyone back to school on Monday 7th June, when we will start the final term of this academic year.

Kindest regards,

Justine Mason
Principal

Principal: Justine Mason

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