



Bishop Wordsworth's School

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Dear Parents/Guardians

A brief update at the start of the second half of the summer term:

School Re-Opening – you will have seen the various recent pronouncements from HM Govt. Over the past week the Leadership Team have been drafting the necessary risk assessment for re-opening from 15 June, together with deciding a detailed programme for face to face support for boys in Years 10 and 12. This has not been straightforward given that only 25% of the year groups are allowed in at one time, the challenge of staffing the programme and also the complexities of all of the different possible subject combinations. It may not be possible for every boy to access every subject for a seminar, but it should be possible to make this happen for the vast majority. Attendance will be encouraged but cannot be compulsory, and attendance times will be staggered so that boys are not travelling at peak times. There will still be problems for some boys of course, particularly where public transport is the only option for travel to school, but we hope that most will make it in. Letters detailing the general arrangements will follow early in the coming week, and a detailed programme for the face to face sessions for each year group will be sent out during the week beginning 8 June when BWS governors have given the go-ahead (and assuming that we are not overtaken by events...). One final point – boys will NOT need to wear uniform to attend the face to face sessions.

Remote Learning – all Year 12 learning, assignments, submission of work and feedback should now be happening via MS Teams rather than Insight. Many teachers are already using Teams for the other year groups, and the full transition to Teams should happen by the end of June. Your son will have received information on how to access and use the software, and experience shows that the boys adapt quickly to the new arrangements (in some ways more quickly than adults do, as usual!). This should mean that your son is able to learn in a more flexible and interactive way rather than just being on the receiving end of work that is posted to be done by a due date. If you have any feedback or questions then your son's tutor (Years 7-10) or mentor (Year 12) should be the first port of call; they will be in regular contact with your son in any case.

Exams and Reports – there will be no end of term reports for boys in Years 7-9 this summer. There will be full reports for Year 10 and Year 12 as they are half way through their examination courses and have only had one report this academic year. Exams for Year 10 and 12 will take place early in the autumn term (week beginning 28 September). This will allow the boys to prepare adequately, for the dust to settle from the start of term and also will give us all some useful indication as to where the boys are with their learning through being tested under controlled conditions. The date of the exams will need to be finally confirmed at the start of the new academic year for obvious reasons.

Year 7 Induction – Dan Brown (Head of Lower School) has opted for 5 separate days of induction for the incoming Year 7 group, with one tutor group per day in early July. Each group will then be split in half for the day on the school site with their tutor and House Prefects etc. All of the other induction related activities (New Parents' Evening, House

Suppers etc) cannot happen, though video presentations by the New House Captains should be made available in due course. There is also an induction video presentation which has been prepared to familiarise boys and parents with the geography of the school site.

Prefects – the top boys are Jake Kneale (Head Boy), Jack Mackenzie (Deputy Head Boy), Joe Essigman (Deputy Head Boy) and Marcus Kimberley (Cathedral Prefect). If you haven't done so already then do have a look at their video presentation on YouTube, it's excellent. There should be other video presentations from other members of the new prefect team to follow.

Watch out for:

- This update at the start of each week, subsequently posted on the coronavirus webpage (it will usually be far shorter than this!)
- HM Blog also posted on the website via the Home page, link via twitter @BWordsworths
- Virtual Whole School Assembly posted on Wednesdays, link again via twitter
- Lots of links to extension and activity material posted on twitter
- Student work, Poem for the Week, Geography Club, Art all via the various departmental twitter feeds and also the Art Instagram account
- @BWSSports weekly activities and challenges etc
- Weekly updates from your son's tutor via Teams
- Regular contact from your son's mentor via Teams
- Regular (often daily) updates from the prolific Mrs Lambard via email for the Sixth Form
- Careers materials from Mrs Armstrong (Careers Consultant)
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And finally – Wordsworth 2020 should be available in the near future in digital format. Watch this space...

Best wishes



S D Smallwood
Head Master