ASPIRE BELIEVE SUCCEED



21st October 2021

Dear Parents/carers

Given the circumstances of the last few days this weekly letter has not been my only contact with you this week, which I hope I will be forgiven for. This is clearly not the way that I wanted the final days of term one to end. I am very much looking forward to all students returning on <u>Monday 1st November at 8:40am</u>. This will be a <u>week one</u>.

Covid Update

At the time of writing 10% of our students have confirmed cases of Covid 19. I hope all that are positive are not suffering too much and it will be great to have the students back in school when they are well enough/isolation periods end.

With the half term break being one week I would ask that parents continue to use the c19@nailseaschool.com email address to report any issues related to Covid-19. It would be very helpful if this initial email included the name and tutor group of the child and the date when symptoms started, if any. Once confirmed information related to the end of isolation is also very helpful. This will ensure that our records are updated internally and classroom teachers can be informed.

During the holiday I would also ask that students

- continue twice weekly at home testing to pick up asymptomatic cases
- do not return to school if suffering from symptoms of COVID-19 (high temperature, loss of taste or smell, continuous cough). If your child does show symptoms please take them for a PCR test as per NHS guidelines.
- wear Masks on home-to-school transport and those who travel to school by public transport.

I will be updating parents towards the end of the half term break to advise if any further action needs to be taken before students return, for example, confirming the level of mask wearing required on site/social spaces allocated to year groups. This will, of course, depend on the regional and school context at that time.

Vaccination Update

As you will have read in the news the Health Secretary announced that 12-15 year olds will be able to arrange vaccinations during the half term break. This news was known to us at the same time as the general public and will be in addition to the School Age Immunisation Service vaccinating students on site.

As mentioned previously, schools are simply the venue for this process. We are yet to receive the forms/details for this. As soon as we have these they will be shared with parents. We are expecting to receive confirmation in the first week of next term.

Finally...

regular readers of this letter/followers of my Twitter account will know I have set myself the challenge of completing Couch to 5K. Mr Elliott and I will be completing (hopefully!) week 8 on Sunday morning and I am incredibly proud of our efforts so far. It just goes to show that if you aspire to a goal and believe in yourself, success can be yours.

I can't yet see myself running up the steps to the Philadelphia Museum of Art quite as fast as Rocky Balboa, but I am working on it.

On that note Rocky films (primarily films I - III, but there are some great elements of Rocky IV when he faces Ivan Drago) are particular favourites of mine. Based on events of the last few days, the final words of this week's letter and the term are summed up very aptly by the 'Italian Stallion' himself.

Wishing you a relaxing and healthy half term break

Take care and be kind Yours faithfully

Mrs Dee Elliott Head teacher

