

1 July 2021

Dear Parents

It was great to see the passion and camaraderie on display during Sports Day this week. The Sports Department adapted their usual plans to ensure the day could go ahead in a safe and secure environment. Seeing the boys out cheering on their House was a real pleasure to witness. Congratulations to Kensington, who came out on top this time.

Covid - not done yet!

It has been a disrupted week as we have experienced a handful of positive LFD tests in Year 12 which resulted in us asking Year 12 to work from home and attend remote lessons on Wednesday. We thank staff, families and students for adapting at such short notice, and would like to highlight the impressive and mature approach of the students.

We were pleased that we could return the majority of Year 12 pupils to school today, based on our internal track and trace process.

However, a number of students continue to isolate as a consequence of either the 3 positive PCR results we have received or further results that we are awaiting; those families have been contacted individually, and we thank them for their ongoing support.

As I am sure you have seen in the media, a number of schools are struggling with increased cases presently; we need to continue to be cautious. It is easy to forget that we are not out of the woods yet and this is especially true when watching the Euros where we see crowds hugging and kissing and barely a mask in sight. We cannot take these risks and must be careful in the coming weeks. Please help us by encouraging your son to wear a mask and please remind him to continue testing twice a week; please record the result.

A final reminder that if anyone in your household has developed symptoms and/or had a positive result on the LFD, the whole household must isolate – your son must not come into school. The person with symptoms and/or the positive LFD result must book a PCR test, and inform the School at all stages of the process. We are obliged to instigate our track and trace process on a positive LFD result and/or a positive PCR result.

We will support our families throughout this process, and thank you for your support also.

Exams

This week boys will have been getting their exam results. Some will have done well, some will be disappointed but all will have room for improvement. The most important part of the process is to learn from the errors that have been made. Please also remember these are not the be all and end all. They are part of the learning process and they can be incredibly useful to highlight where your son might need some extra care and attention. If he has given it his best shot and it has not quite gone to plan this time, then he will no doubt learn from it. He mustn't beat himself up about it.

British Sport

It is great to see the return of Wimbledon this week. Andy Murray back on his favourite turf, causing us heart failure and later bedtimes! But the return has been a little overshadowed by the superb England victory on Tuesday evening. The country has had to wait 55 years to beat Germany in a knock out match, it was well worth the wait. Roll on Saturday!

Nearly there

Just over two weeks to go and as ever, I find myself wishing we had more time; there is still so much to get done for the end of the year. We are delighted to see a number of trips heading out in the remaining weeks and we wish them well.

Thank you for your continued support.

Come on England!

Kind regards

Alex Wallace
Deputy Headmaster