

5 November 2020

Dear Parents,

Welcome back! We hope you and your family managed to enjoy the half term despite the inclement weather. May we wish you, your family and friends well during this next period of lockdown. Please keep us informed if your son is experiencing any concerns; open and honest relationships with pupils and parents are vital in ensuring the wellbeing of our community. Please email your son's Head of Year or Form Tutor with any worries, however small.

The latest Government Guidance was welcomed by the School. Having the community together creates a busy, happy and exciting establishment, a welcome distraction to the difficult news around us. We continue to follow guidance to ensure we keep pupils and staff safe, supported and happy during this period. We will also continue with our calm and measured approach which permeates across the school to provide an excellent working environment.

The guidance (dated 4 November) for schools is no different than before half term in respect of our core business. However, we are now unable to offer the internal Saturday sports fixtures. This is a great shame as we know our students enjoyed the co-curricular opportunity it provided and we hope this can return in the near future. We will continue to monitor any Government updates.

Points of interest for the parent community:

School and Public Buses

Please remind your sons that they must wear their face masks throughout their journey to and from school. It is imperative we protect one another and the bus company personnel. Thank you for your support in this matter.

Remembrance Service

The School will be holding a version of its Annual Service of Remembrance on Wednesday 11 November, albeit on a much smaller scale than usual. Regrettably we are unable to invite parents and other visitors to join us on this occasion and I am sure you will understand why this is not possible this year. We are hoping to stream the event and details will be shared nearer the time if this is possible.

SIMS APP

If any parent is still not able to access the SIMS Parent App, please email ithelp@rgshw.com.

Update for Parents who have ordered iPads through The Learning Foundation Scheme and Year 7 Parents who are providing devices independent of the School

Thank you again for your support for the iPad Scheme, which, as previously shared, is normally not rolled out until Year 8. We chose, with your help, to bring this launch date forward because of the unpredictable nature of the pandemic, and we placed your order with Jigsaw, our suppliers, before half-term. Our expected delivery date was over the half-term break.

Unfortunately, we have been frustrated by the supply chain problems caused by Covid. Jigsaw have chased further today and been told that this is a global constraint. We will continue to talk with them on a regular basis and let you know as soon as we have an update. It is probable that the delivery date will be nearer to the end of the month.

If your son has his own device, please ask him not to bring this to School until all boys have devices (unless he is in Year 8 or above). Our sincere apologies for this frustrating news.

Finally, please keep safe and thank you for your continued support.

Kind regards

Alex Wallace
Deputy Headmaster