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Ref: AGi/LT

21 October 2021

Dear parents

As we approach the end of this half term, I continue to reflect on the many positive events our students have been involved in since we returned to school in September.

In recent weeks, these have included winning several football and netball matches, the Brilliant Club visiting Cambridge University, National Poetry Day and European Day of Languages activities, as well as many more. It has been so good to have these events back in our calendar and actually taking place again.

Thank you for your support in ensuring your children have continued to carry out lateral flow testing twice weekly at home, as well as encouraging their regular attendance at school. As you will be aware, Covid cases are rising in the local area as well as nationally and I recently wrote to you recommending a return to face masks in communal areas. However, from after half term, we will be increasing our expectations on this.

When we return on **1 November 2021**, we will:

- return to hand sanitising on entry to and exit from the school site
- we will require students and staff to be wearing face masks (unless exempt) when queuing for food at the canteen hatches, when in communal indoor spaces and during transitions between lessons in the indoor corridors
- We will monitor ventilation and social distancing
- Be supporting the NHS in enabling students between the ages of 12 and 15 on Thursday 4 November to have their Covid vaccine in school

The DfE has also asked us to remind you that you should encourage your children to continue testing and report results twice a week, at home, throughout the October half-term school holiday and **students should take a test before returning to school after the holiday** on 1 November. All results should be reported, even if your result is negative or void. LFT packs have been distributed yesterday and today to help support this programme.

We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable half term, remain healthy and well and we look forward to seeing your children refreshed and rejuvenated for the second Autumn half term, leading up to Christmas.

Yours sincerely

*A. Gibbins*

**Mrs A Gibbins**  
**Head of School**

