

Headteacher update - 5

Dear Parents/Carers

Last weekend did not start as we hoped it would when we received notification of our first confirmed case of COVID-19 in our community. The support and advice we received was excellent and helped us identify the people that needed to self-isolate, allowing us to communicate our plans to you within 12 hours. Obviously, there is concern amongst staff, students and parents/carers, with the ongoing pandemic, but please be assured that we were praised of our COVID measures and we have contingency plans in place, should we need to respond to future cases.

Could we please ask you and your families to do their part in ensuring our community remains safe and our school continues to operate. You can do this by following the Government guidelines and reinforcing the school expectations at home.

If you are supporting other families by car-sharing, taking other students to and from school, could you please ensure that the driver and all passengers are wearing face masks.

Parents/Carers and visitors on site

We would like to remind all parents/carers that you must phone to make an appointment before coming on to site or arriving at reception. This is also the case if students forget equipment.

COVID-19 Webpage

If you have any queries about COVID-19 and Barnwell School, please visit our designated COVID-19 webpage. This page has up to date information regarding our COVID-19 procedures as well as information guides and all previous parent/carer communication. <https://www.barnwellschool.co.uk/covid-19-info-2/>

Remote Learning

Earlier this week, we launched our new Remote Learning webpage which supports all students that have to self-isolate. All students have access to programmes of study, activities and weblinks that are in line with work that is being studied in school. Students access this work via their normal school log in details. <https://www.barnwellschool.co.uk/remote-learning/>

Microsoft Teams Training

By next Monday, all key stage 3 students will have received training on Microsoft Teams. They will have been shown how to access the Office 365 suite of applications on all devices and have been given guidance on how to download and install the applications for free onto mobiles/tablets/laptops and desktop computers.

The main three applications were **Teams**, **OneDrive** and **Outlook**.

To enable the software, students will need to log in using their school email addresses and passwords. Once set up, students will be able to access live lessons as part of our contingency plan, if a year group bubble was required to self-isolate.

Virtual Assemblies

This week saw another first for Barnwell school. Mr Launay broadcasted to all of Year 10 and 11 during lesson time. These online assemblies allowed Mr Launay to share key school and community messages to all students. The assemblies were recorded and will be made available to all of those that were unable to be in school.

Masks

Could we thank parents/carers for their ongoing support in ensuring students bring masks to school with them. It is essential that all students, unless exempt, bring a mask to school. We would strongly advise that students bring reusable masks to school as they tend to last longer. As a school we are looking into obtaining masks for students to buy if they require them.

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Celebration breakfast

We had great pleasure sharing a celebration breakfast with two of our Year 10 students this morning. Jess and Diya, along with Cara completed the Year 9 Barnwell School Lockdown Diploma before the summer holidays. Students had to complete core and optional projects which allowed them to discover new areas of learning that were unfamiliar to them. Well done to all three of them.



Careers advice and guidance

Mr Patching is delighted to be able to share the 3rd edition of our Futures and Aspirations publication. Each edition highlights many current opportunities for all students, along with links to supportive material. Please click [the link](#) to read our publication.

Local Residents

We would like you to remind your child(ren) that as a school, we have a great relationship with our neighbours and the local community. Students arriving and leaving the school grounds are representing Barnwell and must respect our neighbour's privacy and properties.

Governor Spotlight

Barnwell School is very fortunate to have a strong and supportive Governing Body. The team consists of current and former parents/carers and other members of the community committed to ensuring we continue to deliver an outstanding provision to our students. Over the coming weeks, we would like to introduce you to our Governors by clicking on our Governor Spotlight link.

If you are interested in becoming a school governor, please email communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Free weekly webinars to help your family be healthier

Please click [this link](#) to access this free service available to children aged 5-15.

If you would like clarification regarding any school matters, please do not hesitate to get in contact via communication@barnwell.herts.sch.uk

Thank you once again for your support and have a lovely weekend.

Mr Fitzpatrick
Executive Headteacher

Mr Roberts
Head of School