



Wimbledon College

Head Master's Spring Half-Term Letter to Parents

Friday 12 February 2021

Dear Parents

I am sure that this half term has been a busy and rather stressful one for many if not all of our families. I would like to take this opportunity to thank you all for the support that you have given your sons and the College over the last five weeks.

Online learning has been a massive learning curve for all involved and I have been very impressed with the way that your sons have responded. In a similar way I have been very impressed by the way that the teaching staff have delivered lessons remotely. It is time now for everyone to have a good break from the screens and have a rest over the coming week.

Sadly, many members of our community have been affected directly by Coronavirus. Relatives of both pupils and staff have died with the virus and I ask that you remember all of them in your prayers.

I hope that we will see a continued fall in the number of cases and deaths over the coming weeks and that we will be able to welcome your sons back to school as soon as possible. We will find out on the 22nd of February what the Government's plans regarding the current lockdown will be and importantly whether pupils will be returning to school on the 8th March.

I will write to you all as soon as possible after the announcement on the 22 February.

Report Card

Pupils in all Years are receiving their report cards today. I would like to point out that the grade your son has just received is a formative grade based on the work that he has done this half term. We are aware that, due to the current lockdown, the work your son has completed this half term may not be in line with his usual standard or quantity of work. This may have resulted in a lower than normal grade.

As you know the grades are colour coded so that you can see an overall impression of your son's achievement and progress in each subject. By this point in the year you would usually be seeing a shift from red through amber to green as you look across the report however this may not be the case this year. If you, or your son, are concerned about his progress compared to his target grade please do not hesitate to speak to your son's Head of Line.

Supporting GCSE, A Level, Vocational students

As I am sure you are aware we await guidance from the Department for Education and Ofqual regarding the process that will be used for awarding grades this summer. We are expecting this information to be released before the end of February. Once it is released we will take our time to understand the instructions and will then, as soon as possible, be in contact with you and your sons to share the process that we will be following.

If Rhetoric and Syntax pupils do return to school on the 8th then the examination weeks that you have already been informed of will take place as scheduled. Rhetoric examinations will take place in the week beginning 8th March 2021 and Syntax examinations will take place in the week beginning 15th March 2021. Obviously if the return to school is delayed the examination weeks will be pushed back.

It is important that your sons prepare well for these exams as they may [depending on what DfE and Ofqual guidance is] be part of the evidence that we will be able to use.

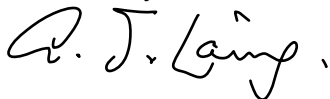
Monday 22 February 2021

I remind parents that Monday 22 February is a staff inset day and so there will be no remote learning or work set for that day. The regular online lessons will recommence on Tuesday **23 February**.

I wish you all a restful and safe half term.

God bless.

Yours sincerely



Adrian Laing
Head Master