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Dear Parent/Carer,

Positive Covid Cases

I am sure that parents will be aware of the steady increase in positive Covid cases across secondary schools since the start of this term. We continue to monitor cases, both student and staff, but as yet we have not reached the 'threshold' at which further measures would need to be considered (we are closest to that threshold in Year 8). Parents may also be aware that other local schools have unfortunately reached this threshold, resulting in the return of control measures such as on-site mass testing and face-covering wearing in those schools. It is important that everybody, students, parents and staff, do everything they can do to minimise transmission in order to try to avoid the return of control measures which would inevitably impact negatively on the quality and enjoyment of students' experience in school. In particular, I would like to ask parents to kindly do the following:

- Encourage students to continue with the twice-weekly Lateral Flow Device tests at home on Monday and Thursday mornings.
- Ensure that students do not attend if they are feeling unwell with Covid-related symptoms.
- Encourage students to continue to adhere to the current Covid measures in place in school, such as hand-sanitisation on entry to classrooms and use of the one-way system around the school building.

Thank you for all your support with the above.

Student Covid Vaccinations

Please note that Helsby High School student vaccinations have been scheduled for Monday 8th and Tuesday 9th November. Further details to follow shortly for students/parents from the Local Authority's School Age Immunisation Service (SAIS), who will be overseeing the vaccination process.

Open Evening

Thank you to parents for allowing their children to help out in school at last week's Open Evenings. The two evenings were very successful, not least because of the incredibly impressive way in which our students came across to our Year 6 families – parents would be very proud of the very positive feedback we have received about our students on the two evenings. Please see [Prospectus - Helsby High School](#) for the latest version of our prospectus and [Virtual Open Evening 2021 - Helsby High School](#) for our updated Virtual Open Evening school video.

Ellesmere Port and Chester Virtual Careers & Education EXPO

The 'Pledge' Partnership for Cheshire & Warrington is hosting the 'Ellesmere Port and Chester Virtual Careers & Education EXPO' this Tuesday (5th October) from 6pm to 7.30pm. The event is free and open to everybody within Ellesmere Port, Chester, Neston and Helsby/Frodsham, especially students in Years 10 to 13 and their parents/carers. The purposes of the event are to enable students to explore ideas of what subjects to study and careers to pursue, to connect with businesses and to better understand educational pathways and opportunities.

The event will be hosted on Learn Live, an online platform. Students will watch a series of videos from employers and local colleges and can participate in a 'live chat' function which is fully moderated, allowing students to put questions safely and directly to employers and education providers during the live event.

To take part, young people and parents should register in advance at <https://learnliveuk.com/ellesmere-port-and-chester-pledge-virtual-expo/>. We strongly encourage all our students in Years 10 to 13 to participate in this exciting and hopefully informative opportunity.

3G Pitch

There's palpable excitement at the school at present as we get very near to being able to use our new 3G Pitch. I am sure that students will very much enjoy making use of this fabulous asset in their PE lessons. Full details of the official opening and a tribute to all those who have made this wonderful addition to the school and community's facilities possible will follow in a future newsletter.

Staff Farewell

Sadly, we said 'good-bye' on Friday to Mrs Millinger, who has moved on after over 9 years at the school working in a variety of support staff roles. Most recently this has been as a Teaching Assistant, where many students have benefited from her support and guidance. Mrs Millinger's thoughtful and caring approach to her work will be missed by both students and her colleagues in the SEND team alike and we wish her all the very best for the future.

Best wishes,

Martin Hill
Headteacher