



Head Teacher:
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14th February 2022

Dear Parent/Carer,

Summer 2022 GCSE and A-Level Examination Information

Good luck to our Year 11 and 13 students who start their PPE2 exams today. The information provided by the examination boards at the start of last week was intended to reduce anxiety ahead of this summer, although it is entirely possible that the sheer amount of information shared by Dr Pritchard-Roberts may have initially had the opposite effect. Please be reassured that we will work with and support students throughout the next few months to ensure they fully understand the content of their examinations and hence are as prepared as possible for their start on Monday 16th May.

Local Authority Household Support Fund

As the forthcoming half-term approaches, eligible families should once again check e-mails carefully for Tesco e-vouchers (£35 per student in receipt of Free School Meals).

Department for Education Laptops

Following the supply of laptops to schools to support students' remote learning during the pandemic, we do have a small surplus supply available for Key Stage 4 or Sixth Form students who may require them in order to undertake schoolwork outside of lessons. Please contact Mr Lawless (Year 10), Dr Ravetz (Year 11) or Mrs Robinson (Sixth Form) in the first instance for further details.

Local Authority SEND Inspection

Ofsted will this week be conducting an inspection of services in Cheshire West and Chester for students with special educational needs and/or disabilities (SEND). Please find attached a letter outlining how parents/carers can contribute their views to the inspection team before midnight tomorrow (Tuesday 15th February).

Second Dose Vaccinations

A reminder that the School Age Immunisation Service will shortly be contacting parents regarding consent ahead of their visit to school to deliver Covid vaccinations on the following dates:

Monday 14th March - Years 8 and 9
Tuesday 15th March - Years 7, 10 and 11
Wednesday 16th March - Reserve Day

Staff Farewell

Sadly, we said farewell to Mrs Edwards last Friday, who retired from her Cover Supervisor post after 12 years at Helsby. Cover supervision is by definition a challenging role in schools, necessarily working in situations which are not ideal, ie the absence of the usual class teacher. However, Mrs Edwards will always be remembered for her positivity and enthusiasm, whatever the circumstances, and students responded to her upbeat approach and enjoyed her lessons. She also played a significant part in the sporting life of the school, supporting the PE department in many different ways. Mrs Edwards will be missed by all colleagues and we wish her all the very best for her retirement from secondary education, although she will still continue to inspire and guide young people in her role as a district- and regional-level rowing coach.

Best wishes,

Martin Hill
Headteacher