



CARLETON HIGH SCHOOL

Carleton High School

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Dear Parents/Carers

As we come to the end of our first term, I would like to thank students, staff, parents and carers for their contributions towards a successful return to school. The resilience, positive attitude and engagement with learning have been remarkable. I feel confident that the great start we have made to this academic year will provide a solid foundation on which to build further success.

We are pleased that, along with keeping our community safe, we have enjoyed a number of other successes that I would like to share with you. I would also like to take this opportunity to update you on some plans for the next half term.

Fantastic induction of Year 7

Year 7 have settled into life at Carleton superbly and it has been wonderful to see how well our new members of 'Team Carleton' have begun their journey. Whilst visiting them in lessons and speaking with them during social times, it has been a pleasure to hear about their learning and the experiences they have enjoyed so far. They are establishing highly effective routines and whilst their start at secondary school may have been unusual, I have no doubt that the next five years will be fantastic! Here is a video our Year 7 students put together for our Virtual Open Evening where they talk about what they have enjoyed and learned during their first term at Carleton High School.

<https://youtu.be/czyoz5mO3uq>

Attendance

Currently, our attendance is well above the current national average. I would like to thank you for your support in ensuring your child attends school. Attendance is always extremely important and in the current pandemic, every day in school is even more valuable. We must continue to work together to ensure the attendance of students in our community remains high as there is a very clear relationship between excellent school attendance and academic achievement.

Year 6 Virtual Open Evening

Thank you to everyone who joined us for our first ever Virtual Open Evening last week. The event took the form of a live broadcast on Facebook which included presentations from the Head Boy and Head Girl, a Year 7 student, my Headteacher's speech and a Q&A with the Senior Leadership Team. If you missed it, recordings are available on our website, together with promotional videos which are intended to give prospective students and parents a strong impression of the school and how we work.

<https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/virtual-open-evening/>

The deadline for applications for a place in Year 7 in September 2021 is Saturday, 31 October 2020.

Superb Support for Year 11

Year 11 are in a key phase of the most important year of their school life. Mrs Norman, Miss Novelle and all Year 11 teachers are working with every student to help them achieve their absolute best in their summer exams.

Parents play a key part in supporting our Year 11 students and I would like to thank you for your continued support in ensuring your child benefits from the superb support we have in place.

The attendance at after school achieve sessions continues to be above 99%. 14 subject specialist workshops will take place during half term and our Virtual Year 11 Information Evening was well attended and received.

In addition, we received confirmation last week that the vast majority of GCSE examinations will take place from Monday, 7 June to Friday, 2 July 2021, with GCSE Results Day being held on Friday 27 August 2021. In addition, there may be a very small number of examinations before the May half term. This will provide three more weeks of teaching time to help prepare Year 11 students most effectively for their summer exams.

Covid Safety and Responding to Positive Test Results

Our staff have taken time to teach our students on how to keep themselves and others safe. I am so proud of our students for the maturity and care for our community they have demonstrated by following the measures we have in school.

With over 1000 people on our site each day, it was inevitable that at some point we would experience a positive case of Covid-19 within our school community. The fact that we have only had a few confirmed cases in eight weeks is a direct consequence of the efforts that our community have made to reduce the risk of spreading the virus. Should your child test positive for Covid-19 during the half term break, it is essential you email school on admin@carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk and a member of staff will get back to you to gather more information. This will allow us to contact any students who need to self-isolate as a result of being in direct contact with a student who has tested positive.

Moving forward, should we receive confirmation of a positive case, we will only contact the parent/carers of the small numbers of affected students who will be required to self-isolate.

Virtual Parents Evenings

We are trying to be as innovative as possible, including taking our Parents' Evenings online. We held the Year 7 Welcome Evening this week and it went very well. Thank you to the Year 7 parents who booked an appointment with their form tutor. The feedback was exceptionally positive.

Formal assessments for all year groups are planned for the latter part of next term and this will be used in conjunction with ongoing assessment to inform the mid-term reports which will be issued prior to each parents evening.

Until there is a change to the government guidance we will hold further parents' evenings online. The dates of this years scheduled parents evenings can be found via the link below and further details will be provided nearer the time.

<https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/parents-evening/>

Remote Learning for Self-isolating Students

Whilst it is our intention to continue delivering an exceptional education to all of our students on site, it would be remiss of us not to reflect on the remote learning which has been provided for students who have had to self-isolate this term.

We have been very impressed with the engagement of self-isolating students with both our high quality 'out of lesson' work packs and the live lessons. Feedback from staff and students has told us that students are more engaged and learn more when they have access to live lessons.

Therefore, moving forward, our teaching staff have been honing their skills with live, online teaching to the stage where we will now be delivering 'hybrid' lessons to any classes where students within that class are self-isolating at home. In essence, this means that any student who needs to self-isolate from next half term will be able to follow their normal timetable and join all their lessons live from home with their teacher. All self-isolating students that are fit and well are expected to engage in remote learning using Google Classroom to securely log in to their regular timetabled lessons and tutor time, and participate in a live stream from their own teacher with their own class.

Further details are available here. <https://carletonhigh.patrust.org.uk/remote-learning/>

And Finally

All that remains to say is to stay safe, have a restful half term break and I hope you will enjoy this message from some of our students on why we are 'Proud to be Carleton'.

<https://youtu.be/om89KHMwzDE>

We look forward to welcoming students and staff back to school on Monday, 2 November 2020.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J Cross'.

Mrs J Cross
Headteacher