

Head's Newsletter

1 October 2021

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Dear Parents/Carers

I hope all is well with you and your families and you have had a good week.

Football Tournament for Cluster Schools Supported by Hobart Student Leaders Kicks Off!

Monday afternoon saw the return of cluster sports events, with the first round of a Year 6 football tournament. It was lovely to see the excitement on the youngsters faces as the first games kicked off, and the support for the event offered by the Hobart student leaders involved.



Open Evening 2021

We held our open evening on Wednesday – our chance to show off the school to families and prospective students! We were very pleased with the numbers attending and there was an excellent atmosphere as families accessed teaching spaces and activities around the site. I would like to say a huge thank you to all those who contributed to the success of the event. The site and catering teams for all their amazing efforts in preparing for such large numbers and ensuring it all ran so smoothly. Staff for their fantastic work in organising their rooms and activities, welcoming families and for all the background work needed. Last but certainly not least, the brilliant students who gave up their time to help with departments, lead tours, play instruments and present to a hall of people twice!

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Flu Vaccinations Reminder

A reminder that nasal spray flu vaccinations are taking place on Thursday 7 October. Consent forms for this have already been issued to your son/daughter to bring home. Please contact the school with any queries.

Work Setting for Absent Students

If your child has to isolate because they have tested positive for COVID-19, they should be receiving work via MS Teams or email (unless paper based work has been requested). If your child is well enough to do so, please encourage them to complete tasks set so they keep up with content being covered in lessons. We appreciate that this may not be possible if youngsters feel ill.

Recently, we have had some emails from students who are absent for non COVID reasons requesting work. While there is something to admire about this approach, if a child is well enough to be completing work at home, they should really be in school and accessing lessons. If appropriate, staff will set work for students upon their return to school to catch up, however, it will not be sent on a request basis if the child is at home unwell. If there are exceptional or unusual circumstances, please discuss these with your child's tutor

Loddon Library Opening Hours

This week I have included a separate sheet that details the opening hours of Loddon Library. This may be useful for any families who wish to access this facility.

Virtual or Face to Face Parent/Carer Evenings – Decision Following Consultation

Thank you for your responses in our parent/carers evening consultation and apologies for the delay in communicating the outcome. A strong majority expressed preference for these events to remain virtual, and there were numerous comments giving reasons. The findings of this consultation coupled with the overwhelmingly positive feedback last year has led to a decision that parent/carers consultation evenings will remain virtual for the foreseeable future.

Policy Updates

The first Local Governing Body meeting took place last week, and one of the agenda items involved the reviewing of some key policies. Amongst those that were ratified are a number that are relevant to parents/carers, and these are now available on our website. They include the following; safeguarding, behaviour, homework, and Special Educational Needs.

Kind regards and have a super weekend.

Ross Li-Rocchi
Head of School