



A message from Mr Newman

A very Happy New Year to all families.

School has been a really vibrant place since the start of term with students showing a real purpose and commitment to their work in lessons. Following a difficult end to the autumn term, due to the rising number of COVID-19 cases we had before Christmas, we have seen much lower numbers of cases this term, and we hope for continued better times ahead.

Yesterday morning I met with a group of Year 7 students to hear all about their achievements, and what they enjoy at HT, and I will be continuing with similar Hot Chocolate with the Principal events in the coming weeks. I also enjoyed the opportunity to watch our Year 7 footballers in their District Cup fixture this week and we have seen the continued large numbers of students attending our Debate Club, led by our sixth formers.

During assemblies this week we also announced that our school production this year will be Mary Poppins. Our Creative & Performing Arts team will be running auditions next week, and rehearsals will be underway soon for July's production.

I am also delighted that a number of trips and visits will be starting to take place again more routinely in the months ahead, and we look forward to our Year 8 visit to Stansted Airport next Friday. Such opportunities which we had really developed prior to the pandemic are such important parts of our curriculum, and I would urge students to involve themselves as fully as possible in all co-curricular opportunities as well as trips and visits when available to them.

Year 9 visited by Dan O'Connell

Dan O'Connell from Camelot/The National Lottery came into school on 14th January to speak to our Year 9 students about his unorthodox route into the design and marketing world and to set them a design task which he will return in the summer to look at. Mr Macaulay said Dan O'Connell was inspirational, and gave our students some great ideas. We are looking forward to them getting creative and completing the task.



The English & Humanities building is razed to the ground

The demolition work had been ongoing over the Christmas period and into the new term. This is what was left of our English block the second week into the Spring term.



The Diana Award – Anti-Bullying training

On Thursday 13th January some of our Year 7 & 8 students attended an Anti-Bullying training event. The Anti-Bullying Ambassador Programme equips students and staff with the tools needed to tackle bullying behaviour head on, transform the approach to anti-bullying and create a safer, kinder school community enabling our students to become Anti-Bullying Ambassadors.



Hot Chocolate with the Principal



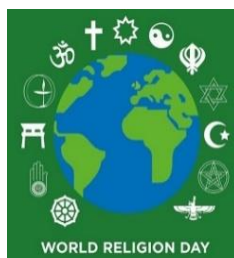
Layla Broughton, Lily-Eve Cane, Olivera Ciucea, Daniele Cusano, Emily Kiselyte, Jack Spink, Audrey Walker and Hayden Wharfe met with Mr Newman this week to celebrate their excellent commitment and resilience with their school work since joining in September.



World Religion Day

World Religion Day was on 16th January 2022. The students and staff have made a short video celebrating faith across our school community. Please click the link to view:

[Click Here](#)



Staff changes

We welcome Mrs Oatham, Link Worker; Miss Panayi, Teacher of Humanities and Miss Mputa, Cover/Pastoral Assistant.

Co-Curricular Activities – Spring Term

Please click on the following links to see the activities which are available both at lunchtime and after school.

Year 7 - [Click Here](#)

Year 9 - [Click Here](#)

Year 11 - [Click Here](#)

Year 8 - [Click Here](#)

Year 10 - [Click Here](#)

Sixth Form - [Click Here](#)



COVID-19 update

- On Wednesday 19th January, the Prime Minister announced that all COVID-19 Plan B measures will be removed in England, with a full return to Plan A by Thursday 27th January. In education and childcare settings, this means that from Thursday 20th January, face coverings (masks) are no longer recommended in classrooms and teaching spaces. Should any individual wish to continue wearing a face covering (mask) in any classroom that would continue to be supported by the school, but it is no longer recommended by the Department for Education. Students should continue to wear face coverings (masks) in indoor communal areas, including in assemblies at present.
- From Monday 17th January, people who are self-isolating with COVID-19 have the option to reduce their isolation period after 5 full days if they test negative with a lateral flow device (LFD) test on both day 5 and day 6 and they do not have a temperature. For example, if they test negative on the morning of day 5 and the morning of day 6, they can return to school immediately on day 6.
- The first test must be taken no earlier than day 5 of the self-isolation period, and the second must be taken the following day. All test results should be [reported to NHS Test and Trace](#).
- If the result of either of their tests is positive, they should continue to self-isolate until they get negative results from two LFD tests on consecutive days or until they have completed 10 full days of self-isolation, whichever is earliest.
- Anyone who is unable to take LFD tests or anyone who continues to have a temperature will need to complete the full 10-day period of self-isolation.
- If double vaccinated it is not necessary for adults to self-isolate if symptom free, if deemed to be in close contact by NHS Track & Trace, but daily lateral flow tests should be taken for 7 consecutive days.
- If adults are not double vaccinated, it is necessary to self-isolate if NHS Track & Trace deem that you are a close contact whether or not you have symptoms.
- Students under the age of 18 years and 6 months do not need to self-isolate if deemed a close contact and remain symptom free – they are strongly advised to do daily lateral flow tests for 7 days.