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Headteacher: Lynda Walker MA

14th October 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Headteacher's Update

Many of you will remember that one of our students sadly died in April. We were very pleased to be able to invite members of his family to an outside celebration of his birthday on Monday. Many of his friends joined together to dance and listen to his favourite music and hang 'memories' on a cherry tree that will be planted in our new horticultural garden area. Hearts of Oak, our school charity which the family supported have purchased a bench in his memory, which is now in our Centenary Building courtyard.

Parental Consultation

Hopefully form tutors have now contacted you and arranged a time when you can have an extended conversation about your child.

In addition to asking you about home learning they may ask your views about the school lunch menu. As I mentioned last week we are now serving 'hot packed lunches' and the menu is on the website. At the moment the meat that is used in the dishes is Halal. As we are such a multi-cultural community, this means that more students can choose a meat option if they prefer. We are also able, on request, to have kosher meals delivered to school. Sometimes students have very specific likes and dislikes. We are accustomed to helping students extend the range of food they eat and to providing additive free, gluten and dairy free diets. Please let us know of any specific food preferences for your child.

Curriculum

Updated curriculum information has now also been posted on the website and you may wish to discuss this with your child's form tutor.

COVID 19

We are keeping windows and some doors open, as we are advised that fresh air helps hinder the spread of COVID-19. As the weeks get chillier, please start to dress your child in warmer underclothes, such as vests, long sleeve tops under their shirts, jumpers or fleeces and trousers rather than shorts. [Find the latest information we have about Covid-19 on our school website.](#)

A Reminder about Attendance

Please do not send your child into school if they have a temperature or new persistent cough; even though this may not be COVID related. The school transport protocols state that they will not bring in a child or take them home if they have a temperature. This means that we would need to call you to collect your child from school. Please also remember to phone school and let us know any reasons for absence as we have to report daily attendance to the Department of Education.

Best Wishes

Lynda Walker, Headteacher