

HOLYWELL SCHOOL

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Update Letter 14-07-2020

Dear Students, Parents and Carers

I can't quite believe that this is the last official week of term! It has crept up on us so very quickly. Amidst all the planning for the whole-school return in September, we are still managing our final round of lessons in school and online, dealing with virtual transition, completing all the usual tasks from this time of year (timetabling, budget, curriculum planning, etc) and trying to find time to reflect on what has made us happy during lockdown for our Museum of Happiness. One of the things which has been a constant source of happiness for me is our wonderful, kind and thoughtful students. They have been so resilient, so enterprising and so creative in lockdown. Some have had challenges and some have found things difficult, however, we have worked together to start to rebuild, re-frame and refresh, ready for September. Please always remember that we are all doing the best we can in unusual circumstances and that we can talk with someone about anything, even if it feels awful or small.



September Plans

With regard to plans for September, we are still working out the full details of what this will look like. It is proving to be a real challenge to match the practicalities of the government's ambition for all students to return to school and for us to provide a full and high-quality curriculum, whilst still trying to keep students and staff safe by reducing the risk of transmission of Coronavirus. We have discussed and modelled several scenarios – from Primary-style teaching to just going for our usual timetable. We have to do something to reduce contact between students and, as we have a secondary approach to our curriculum, we are looking at limiting the number of contacts students have through more consistent groupings and ensuring that year groups do not mix on site.

We will provide full guidelines and expectations as we did for our Critical Worker School and our Year 6 school as soon as we can. Some measures will be for a short period of time (dependent on whether transmission and infection rates continue to decline), others will be for longer ... there is an expectation that everything is 'back to normal' by the Summer Term 2021. The main differences in September will include the following:

- Consistent groupings
- No mixing across year groups
- Robust and regular hygiene measures (inc. hand-sanitising at the start of every lesson)
- No contact sports or contact games at break or lunchtime
- Rota for lunchtime (KS2 and KS3 split – 30 minutes supervised recreation / 30 minutes for eating lunch – both in designated year group areas)
- One-way system around the site
- No use of lockers
- Restrictions in some curriculum areas (eg. Music and PE)
- Restrictions to extra-curricular provision (no PE clubs, choir, or instrumental groups/rehearsals)
- Restrictions and changes to feedback and marking
- Additional Behaviour for Learning expectations
- Return to uniform ... but allowed to wear PE kit for days with PE lessons
- No large gatherings (assemblies will be recorded or streamed to classrooms)



Headteacher: Mr MG Simpson MA, NPQH

Deputy Headteacher: Mr S Van Der Merwe – Acting Deputy Headteacher: Mrs H Donnellan

Acting Assistant Headteacher / DSL: Mrs J Davies

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Full details will follow. What we have decided is, that to support all students with transition and with our news ways of working, we will have a phased return of students over the first three days in September. From our recent experience of students in school, we have learned that it is vital to establish key routines and practices. I know that having had so much time out of school, there is a rationale for 'just getting them all back' as quickly as possible, however, this phased start to term will enable us to support all of our students to cope with everyone being back at school in a managed, measured and safe way. We will take the first three days of term to bring students back to school in manageable groups:

- Monday, 7th September Year 5 only
- Tuesday, 8th September Year 5 and Year 6 only
- Wednesday, 9th September All year groups

Please be reassured that we will do everything that we can to ensure a safe return for all of our students. We will also support them to be the best they can be and aim to ensure all students 'catch up' on their learning by the end of the academic year.

Sports Day

Our virtual Sports Day was a huge success. Mrs Simpson and the PE team were delighted with the response. The results were:



Virtual Sports Day 2020	House
1 st	David
2 nd	George
3 rd	Andrew
4 th	Patrick



The Dundas Brothers



The Lasham Crew



The Shay Siblings



Mrs Vincent's dog in Sports Kit



Student winners were:

WINNER	VERTICAL JUMP	LONG JUMP	SIT UPS	BURPEES	KEEPY UPS	PRESS UPS	PLANK	WALL SIT	TENNIS BALL	SPEED BOUNCE	10 MINS RUN
Y5 BOY	Harrison Netherton 5HS	Max Aldridge 5TM Alexander Packham 5HL	Harrison Netherton 5HS	Alexander Packham 5HL	Harrison Netherton 5HS	Jensen Lewis 5HS	Harrison Netherton 5HS	Alexander Packham 5HL	Alexander Packham 5HL	Harrison Netherton 5HS	Max Aldridge 5TM
Y5 GIRL	Olivia Powell 5MBA	Olivia Powell 5MBA	Bea Bartishel 5HL	Isabella Carter 5HS	Olivia Creegan 5MBA	Olivia Powell 5MBA	Olivia Orne 5AJS	Bea Bartishel 5HL	Bea Bartishel 5HL	Bea Bartishel 5HL	Olivia Powell 5MBA
Y6 BOY	Harry Mathias 6GJ	Emmanuel Durojaiye 6AB	Callum Parker 6BS	Charlie Larham-Kelly 6LH	Charlie Larham-Kelly 6LH	Charlie Larham-Kelly 6LH	Charlie Larham-Kelly 6LH	Jake Castleman 6BS	Jack (St Patrick)	Lleyton Gerard 6LH & Ellis Lasham 6BS	Harry Mathias 6GJ
Y6 GIRL	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Summer Perkin-Prior 6BS	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Taiyana Bellot 6PM	Olivia Cutler 6LH	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC	Amelie Gobindram 6SLC
Y7 BOY	Alex Goulding 7CS	Kristian Dasilva	Shay Simms 7RS	Shay Simms 7RS	Shay Simms 7RS	Shay Simms 7RS	Shay Simms 7RS	Shay Simms 7RS	Alex Goulding 7CS	Shay Simms 7RS	
Y7 GIRL	Evie Atkins 7PS	Jasmyn Mahi 7SWA	Casey Chandler 7CS	Shelby White 7SWA	Skyla Lasham 7RS Erica Corbel 7SWA	Erica Corbel 7SWA	Casey Chandler 7CS	Casey Chandler 7CS	Martha Perry 7PG	Skyla Lasham 7RS	Casey Chandler 7CS

WINNER	VERTICAL JUMP	LONG JUMP	SIT UPS	BURPEES	KEEPY UPS	PRESS UPS	PLANK	WALL SIT	TENNIS BALL	SPEED BOUNCE	10 MINS RUN
Y8 BOY	Jack Thorne 8CSI	Tom Dundas 8CSI	Idris Gobindram 8PB Jake Ecott 8MB	Jake Ecott 8MB	Tom Dundas 8CSI	Jake Ecott 8MB	Idris Gobindram 8PB	Jack Thorne 8CSI	Jack Thorne 8CSI	Idris Gobindram 8PB	Idris Gobindram 8PB
Y8 GIRL	Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI		Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI		Izzy Harvey 8CSI	Izzy Harvey 8CSI



WINNER	VERTICAL JUMP	LONG JUMP	SIT UPS	BURPEES	KEEPY UPS	PRESS UPS	PLANK	WALL SIT	TENNIS BALL	SPEED BOUNCE	10 MINS RUN
FAMILY MEMBERS	Harry Mathias 6GJ Family member 2	Max Willoughbys Dad 5SMA	Max Willoughbys Dad 5SMA	Erica Corbels Dad 7SWA	Harrison Nethertones DAD 5HS	Bea Bartishels Dad 5HL	Jacob Rusts brother Callum Rust 5MBA	Jacob Rusts brother Callum Rust 5MBA	Alex Gouldings 7CS family member	Idris and Amelie Gobindram family member 2	Bea Bartishels Dad 5HL

UKMT Junior Maths Challenge 2020

This year, some of our most able maths students from Years 7 and 8 were invited to take part in the Junior Maths Challenge. Originally, due to be sat in school at the end of April, this was postponed because of Covid-19, and arrangements were made for pupils to sit it online at home at a later date. So, Ms Mollis would like to congratulate all the students who were able to take part and took the challenge under these somewhat changed circumstances.

The UKMT Mathematical Challenges aim to stimulate mathematical problem solving. The Junior Challenge is aimed at students in Year 8 or below (England and Wales). It is the UK's most popular mathematics competition with over 300 000 students usually taking part each year.

To recognise the highest performers in the Challenge, the top-scoring 40% of participants are awarded Bronze, Silver and Gold certificates in the ratio 3:2:1. So I am really pleased to say that nearly 50% of our students who took part managed to obtain these higher levels, which is a fantastic achievement.

This year Holywell students received 2 Gold, 6 Silver and 9 Bronze awards between them. Golds went to Aiden Brind and Charlie Littlewood. Silvers were awarded to Matty Aldridge, Phoebe Bladen, Hannah Chirayil, Jake Ecott, Emily Mann and Casey-Mae Chandler. Achieving the Bronze awards were Joseph Dillingham, Jack Haseldine, Madeleine Lawson, Thomas Meadows, Chloe Ranger, Cole Reader, Karenpreet Sidhu, Josh Judge and Jasmyn Mahi.

There will be no Kangaroo follow-on round this year for our highest achievers, but I would like to make particular mention of Charlie Littlewood and Aiden Brind who achieved joint 'Best in School'. Well done, again, and thank you to everybody who took part.

Waves, assemblies, music challenge and Yearbook collections for Year 8

Following in the recent celebrity trend of filming 'waves', Miss Lau and Mrs Purves have put together a lovely montage of staff waves – a wave to say hello, a wave to say 'goodbye' or a wave to say 'au revoir' ... you decide! Follow this [link](#).



Mrs Purves is also working hard editing all of the contributions we have had for the VIVA LA VIDA Music challenge – watch out for the great reveal at the end of the week!

A final reminder to Year 8 students to book in for a time to collect your Yearbook (and some other 'farewell goodies' courtesy of the PTFA) as a reminder of your time with us at Holywell. We will miss you all greatly and watch out for details of a reunion event in the Autumn Term.

... and finally

There will be a final update letter towards the end of the week. In the meantime, stay safe, keep working hard and stay in touch.

Best wishes

Mr Simpson