



25 March 2022

Dear Parent/Guardian

I am afraid it has been another Covid affected week here at school. We have just about kept everything in place, but it has not been easy. The team have come together and really helped in the last few days. This has been shown by Miss Shepherd and Miss Jackson taking netball matches, Mr Baker taking football teams and the entire English team stepping in to take Year 11 on Wednesday afternoon when there were no PE teachers! #teammece in full effect!

Despite all this we have managed to keep a vast range of activities going

Sport

We have had some great sporting successes in the last two weeks with our Year 8 and 9 girls defeating Gillotts 17-3, our Year 10 and 11 footballers defeating Langtree 2-1 to build on their 2-2 draw with Wheatley Park the week before. Also, in football our Year 7 side got to the County Finals and played at Radley College, coming third overall.

Latin Club

I am incredibly grateful to Ms Green in our Foreign Languages department who has just started our Latin Club this week. 11 students stayed after school on Monday to begin their Classical Studies. Ms Green has successfully bid for a grant to fund this initiative and it was great to see 11 students there conjugating their way to success.

Reading Ambassadors Scheme

Our new Reading ambassadors' scheme has been launched by the English department. This will involve some of our older students supporting our younger students in guided reading. I am really pleased that this opportunity is another leadership scheme for our student community and another strand for our whole school reading strategy.

Trips

I am very grateful to Mr Harte and Mrs Fearnside for taking our Year 11 dramatists to a performance of a Woman in Black in London. The students behaved impeccably and were complimented on this by the public which was most pleasing.

Assembly

Mr Yarwood delivered a fantastic assembly to all the students this week looking at the role that one person can make to society. He discussed Rosa Parks, Malala, and many others before focusing on the heroic works of Desmond Tutu. The students were incredibly focused on this superb piece of instruction, and I am incredibly grateful to Mr Yarwood for enlightening the students about these great personalities and their works.

Land Sale consultation and school benefits

On Thursday evening the school held a public consultation on the land sale that is proposed for the unused sloping corner of the field behind the tennis courts. This is a wonderful opportunity for the school with a new MUGA (multi use games area), cricket nets and a complete refurbishment of the sports hall all coming as part of the development. In addition, the community will benefit from a refurbished youth club.

Free School Meals

Lastly, we know times are incredibly tricky for many families at the moment. If you feel you need further assistance, please click on the link below to see if you qualify to register as either Free School Meals or as a Pupil Premium student.

[Free School Meals](#)

My stars of the week this week are Miss Shepherd and Miss Jackson for their support of the PE teams. My student of the week is Rio N for his role in the Year 11 football match and his outstanding contribution to Mr Yarwood's excellent assembly and our community.

Please click on the links below if you would like to leave us any feedback.

Take care and stay safe - Spring is on its way!

Yours sincerely



Andy Hartley
Headteacher

