

## **Weekly News Update Friday 25 February 2022**

Dear Parents and Carers

The start of this half-term comes with optimism that we may be starting to see the tail end of the pandemic. We are now operating in a very different environment to that of 12 months ago and the time has come to return to normality as best we can whilst still exercising some caution. Clearly, should the Covid situation worsen, then we will reconsider our practices. However, following discussions here, we have decided on the following steps:

1. Masks are optional.
2. Testing also becomes optional unless symptomatic.
3. If a student or member of staff shows any symptoms related to Covid, then they should take a test and, if they get a positive result, take time out until clear.
4. Track and Trace will no longer be happening in the school.
5. The school will no longer be receiving testing kits to distribute to students.

We continue to ensure that rooms are ventilated, and we are making good use of our outside spaces at break and lunchtimes. Our staggered breaks and lunch time slots, which work well with our large cohorts, will also continue.

### **Mock Exams**

Well done to all the Year 11 students who have worked tirelessly in their mock examinations this week. Any students who have missed a mock should see Mrs Cumming urgently on Monday morning to see if the missed exam can be scheduled into one of the remaining exam sessions. There are just six weeks to go until the Easter break and the final countdown and push for the summer examinations. Thank you for all your support with making sure that students had revised over the break and were ready for their mocks. We share all the subject content that our students learn on our website. Direct links to both our curriculum intent and subject curriculum maps are here:

[https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/Pages/Curriculum\\_Maps.aspx](https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/Pages/Curriculum_Maps.aspx)

[https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/Pages/Curriculum\\_Intent\\_Detail.aspx](https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/Pages/Curriculum_Intent_Detail.aspx)

Content that will be covered in the Summer exams is also being shared with Year 11 students by subject staff in lessons.

### **British Youth Council**

The British Youth Council are currently asking Secondary school students to have their say in the 'Make Your Mark' campaign, which gives all young people aged 11-18 in the UK the chance to have a say on the biggest issues facing young people.

The Make your Mark campaign takes place annually, supported by Local Authorities, schools, UK parliament and the department for Digital, Culture, Media & Sport. Voting is open until 28 February 2022.

More information and a link to the short survey can be found via this link: [British Youth Council | Make Your Mark - UK Youth Parliament \(byc.org.uk\)](https://www.byc.org.uk/campaigns/make-your-mark)

### **PE results**

The Boys U13 Football team won 6-0 in the Quarter Finals of the County Cup this week. Congratulations to the team!

### **School Laptops**

If your child would benefit from the use of a school laptop for home learning, please contact our Assistant Headteacher, Loretta Lloyd at [lyd@dorothy-stringer.co.uk](mailto:lyd@dorothy-stringer.co.uk). Students who have had free school meals in the last six years will be prioritised.

### **Reminder: Dorothy Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition**

This competition is open to all students and staff, and will consist of planning a pudding, writing up the details, cooking and submitting supporting photos to the Food Technology department. The judges will then shortlist the entries to go through to a semi-final cook-off in school. Those who make it through to the final will be judged by Mr Desborough and Mr Hillier, with the winner being announced as the Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition Winner 2022 and receiving a baking-related prize. The deadline for entries is Friday 18 March. Further details can be found here:

[Dorothy Stringer Platinum Pudding Competition](#)

### **Reminder: Tickets now on sale for Stringer Dance Show (19 March) at Brighton Dome**

We are excited to be running our very own Dorothy Stringer Dance Show at the Brighton Dome and students have been working very hard preparing their dance routines. Tickets for this event are now available to purchase from the Brighton Dome Box Office at a price of £10.00. You can use this link to book: [Stringer Dance Show tickets](#)

### **Reminder: Tickets now on sale for Prom – Friday 1st July 2022**

We are excited to be returning to the AMEX after a break for the last two years, for Year 11 students to celebrate completing their examinations and their time at Stringer. Further information has already been sent home and a link to the letter can be found on the Trips page of the SLG.

### **Root Word of the Week – Cred, meaning ‘believe’**

- **Credit** – the ability of a customer to obtain goods or services before payment, based on the trust that payment will be made in the future, or publicly acknowledge a contributor’s role in the production of (something published or broadcast).
- **Credence** – belief in or acceptance of something as true
- **Credible** – able to be believed; convincing

### **Key Dates**

**Year 11 Parents’ Evening:** Thursday 3 March 2022

**Inset Day (school closed to students):** Friday 18 March 2022

**Year 7 Parents’ Evening:** Thursday 24 March 2022

**Easter holidays:** Monday 11-Friday 22 April 2022

**Key Dates** for 2021/2022 and 2022/3 are on our website: [https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/pages/key\\_dates.aspx](https://public.dorothy-stringer.co.uk/ds/pages/key_dates.aspx)

*\*Note: If any of the hyperlinks in this update do not work, please copy and paste the link address into your address bar. \**

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier