

Weekly News Update Friday 13 November 2020

Year 11 Mocks

We have been hugely impressed by the attitude shown by most of the Year 11s to their mocks. Hopefully this will have given them some solid experience of what the summer exams will be like and will have built their confidence in dealing with the exams process. We have stressed to students that it is not the marks from these exams that are important but what they do with what they learn from the process. Please continue to watch for the daily bulletins from Mrs. Cumming, as they will contain important information next week about future dates.

After-school Clubs

Following the clarification this week from the Youth Sports Trust, we are pleased to be able to re-start our provision for after school sports and PE clubs this week. Please see the extra-curricular timetable on the SLG for more information.

Miss Judd and Mr Gill have also been working hard to put together a schedule of house competitions which will allow students to represent their forms in competitive sport.

These will take place on the following dates

- ☐ Thursday 26 November – Year 8 Table Tennis and Tag Rugby
- ☐ Thursday 3 December – Year 7 Table Tennis and Tag Rugby
- ☐ Wednesday 9 December – Year 7 Basketball and Girls Football
- ☐ Wednesday 16 December – Year 8 Basketball and Girls Football

Daily Routines

We have now been following our staggered timetable for two weeks and students are getting used to their timeslots for the canteen and are remembering to use the one-way system at all times. Although we have hand sanitising stations and sanitiser in all rooms, we have invested in further wall mounted sanitiser units so that long term these will be outside the majority of classrooms. Students have access to the canteen at the following times and there is enough time to allow all students access if they come at their allocated slots. We have different sides for each year group and clean down between each serving.

Break – Year 7 – 10.40, Year 8 and 9 – 10.50, Year 10 and 11 – 11.00

Lunch time – Year 7 - 12.00, Year 8 and 10 – 12.10 Year 9 and 11 12.30 (after tutor time)

Happy Diwali

At Stringer we are proud to be an inclusive community, with students and staff from diverse nationalities and backgrounds. This weekend marks the start of Diwali, the festival of lights, it is marked by Hindus, Jains, Sikhs and some Buddhists and is a five-day festival.

However, like so many other recent events – religious or otherwise – Covid-19 will severely impact Diwali celebrations and Local Authorities are urging families to stick to the restrictions and practice social distancing.

Anti-Bullying Week 2020: United Against Bullying

The theme for Anti-Bullying Week 2020 is: United Against Bullying. Anti-Bullying Week starts on Monday 16 with Odd Socks Day and runs until Friday 20 November. We hope to see lots of odd socks on Monday.

Throughout Anti-bullying week, during form time, students will be focussing on the impacts of bullying, its effects and how they can help tackle it.

Upcoming Dates for Diary

Year 10 Parents' Evening – early closure Thursday 19 November

On Thursday 19 November we will be running our Year 10 virtual Parent's Meeting; parents of Year 10 students will have received an invite for this event and instructions on how to contact their child's teacher. This means school will finish early for all year groups at the end of period 4. Please be aware that this means there will be no school buses at the end of the day.

INSET Monday 23 November – school closed to students.

Sixth form college application deadlines extended

We understand that making a decision about which college to apply to may feel more difficult this year. In light of the current situation both BHASVIC and Varndean College are extending their priority application date to Monday 4 January 2021.

The requirement to only apply to one college will remain – this is to enable both colleges to plan their curriculum and staffing effectively so that they can offer you the subjects you have chosen in your interview.

Following the success of their Virtual Open Event earlier in October, Varndean College will be running a further virtual event for prospective students and parents on Thursday 26 November from 5.30pm - 7.30pm. This will provide an opportunity for anyone who missed their previous event to again watch a wide selection of pre-recorded videos about the college, as well as the chance to participate in a series of live Q&As with ~~all our~~ subject tutors.

Covid-19 city update

For the second consecutive week we have seen an overall reduction in confirmed cases of Covid in the Brighton & Hove.

Although the number of confirmed cases has reduced it is too early to say if this trend will be sustained. The overall fall in rates we have seen this week is due to a significant 37% drop in rates among young people in the past week.

The level of infection in older people remains a concern because of the higher risk of complications in this age group and the potential impact on health and care services.

Please see our website for the most up to date advice from the Department for Education: [Covid-19 Advice and Information](#)

Word of the week: Panacea = a cure for all ills

Take care and stay safe.

Matt Hillier | Headteacher