

Weekly News Update Friday 21 January 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

I hope you are keeping safe and well. As you may have seen in the national news, UK restrictions in response to Omicron are lifting, including for schools.

Face coverings

Following the change in Government guidance, it is now voluntary for all students and staff to wear face coverings in classrooms. They must still be worn in communal areas such as school corridors until next Thursday 27 January, when the wearing of face coverings will become voluntary across all areas of the school. They must still be worn on school transport until further notice. We would like to publicly thank the student body for their compliance with the face coverings rule since we returned after New Year.

Testing

Bi-weekly lateral flow testing should continue for the time being to help ensure we do not have a further spike in cases. Ideally students should be doing a lateral flow test on Sunday evening and another during the week. Those identified as close contacts will continue to be notified by the school as required so they can test daily. A reminder that if your child does test positive, please report let us know by emailing covid@dorothy-stringer.co.uk. Thank you all for your continued support in maintaining our educational provision and helping to keep everyone in our community safe.

Year 9 Options Evening and Parents' Evening

This week we had our virtual Options Evening with a live presentation and videos from the subject leaders. There will be a recording posted on the Options Evening webpage on Monday 24 January. We have our Year 9 virtual parents' evening next Thursday 27 January. As this is a virtual event, the school day will operate as normal, and parents should join the event for their designated slot.

PE clubs and fixtures

Parents and carers seeking information about clubs and fixtures should regularly check the Student Notices section of the SLG. This can be found on the drop-down list under the 'News' tab. This platform is regularly used by PE staff to update students about information including upcoming fixtures and any club cancellations. Students seeking information about external fixtures should check the PE notice board and ask the member of staff who runs the team. It has been another busy week for the PE department. Our full results are below:

Year 7 Rugby beat Brighton College Prep
Cross Country – Louis Muir Qualified for the Inter Counties Competition. Over 30 Stringer Students took part.
Kira Dunford won the Brighton Schools Cross Country
Year 9 Boys Football won 4-0 against Peacehaven
Year 8 Netball beat Kings and Blatchington Mill in the Brighton Cup
15 Stringer students took part in the KS3 Basketball festival held at Dorothy Stringer
Year 7 boys B team lost to Longhill

Congratulations to all those who have participated in the fixtures and represented the school.

International Holocaust Memorial Day

Holocaust Memorial Day is on Thursday 27 January 2022 and the theme this year is One Day. More information about the theme can be found here: [Holocaust Memorial Day Trust | One Day \(hmd.org.uk\)](https://www.hmd.org.uk).

The Brighton and Hove Holocaust Education Project in partnership with Brighton and Hove City Council will be commemorating HMD this year entirely online, joining communities around the UK as they observe this national day of awareness and reflection.

A special one-hour programme will be live-streamed courtesy of Latest TV at 2.00 p.m. and 6.00 p.m. on Thursday 27 January via the station's website: <https://thelatest.co.uk/latest-tv>.

Parent Calendar Photo Competition 2022/23

Entries are now open for students for our Parent Calendar Photography Competition. The winning photos will be selected in the summer term and printed in our 2022/23 parent calendar. Please see the SLG newsletter item for this year's categories and more information. All entries should be emailed to photocomp@dorothy-stringer.co.uk by Monday 2 May 2022.

Reporting your child's absence

On the day

To report your child's absence on the day due to illness or another reason, we ask that you use Studybugs. If you haven't used it before, please register online via the Studybugs website: <https://studybugs.com> or download the free app, which is available for iPhone, Android and Windows Phone.

Reporting absence in advance

If you know in advance that your child will not be able to attend school, due to a medical appointment or for another reason, please contact the Attendance Team **only** by email to attendance@dorothy-stringer.co.uk, giving a specific reason and the timeframe for their absence. You do not need to email individual teachers as Attendance will do this for you. If you need to talk to the Attendance Team, please call: 01273 852222 Ext. 217. If you need more information, please visit the [Attendance](#) page of our website.

Root Word of the Week – Poly, meaning 'many'

- **Polygon** – a two-dimensional shape with at least three straight sides and angles, and typically five or more.
- **Polymath** – a person with a wide range of knowledge across a variety of different subjects.
- **Polytheism** – the belief in or worship of more than one god.

Key Dates:

Year 9 Parents' Evening (remote): Thursday 27 January 2022

Half Term: Monday 14 February–Friday 18 February 2022

Key Dates for 2021/2022 are on our website: 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