

1 November 2020

Dear Parents and Carers

I do hope that you have all enjoyed something of a rest over the last two weeks and that your children are feeling refreshed and ready for another productive half-term of learning at St Dunstan's.

Last night's announcement from the Prime Minister may have caused anxiety for some of you – parents and children - however logical that decision might appear to be. The College Leadership Team met this morning and will meet again across the next week, to consider in more detail what this latest decision means for us as a College community. We will continue to follow government guidance, as we have done throughout this pandemic, and school will resume tomorrow. We are also well aware of the significant impact this pandemic has already had on the wellbeing of our young people and wholeheartedly believe they are better served having an education in school. You will appreciate, however, that there are significant additional complexities and challenges of maintaining a school community that meets in person, when the rest of the country is isolating, and in the face of escalating transmission of the disease. With this in mind, it is likely that there will need to be additional adjustments to our ways of working, in order to further reduce the risk of transmission. I will be in a position to share these with you in my bulletin video on Friday. I am grateful to you for your support as we seek, as ever, to strike the right balance between offering you an outstanding, ambitious and forward-thinking education, whilst keeping everyone as safe as possible and such that everyone – staff and pupils – feel comfortable about being in school.

I am pleased to report that lunch arrangements have been changed and children will now collect their meal from the new Covid Secure serveries, which will ensure that food remains hot. There will also be the option of a meat or vegetarian dish, with additional vegetables and fruit available on request. The final top 10 meal choices, as chosen by the pupils, can be found here: <https://www.stdunstans.org.uk/st-dunstans-kitchen>

Please remember that the weekly bulletin and my video, contained within it, provides important weekly updates on all matters to do with College life and will keep you apprised of any developments with the changing situation presented by the pandemic. Updates specific to coronavirus can also be found on the dedicated section of our website: <https://www.stdunstans.org.uk/community/coronavirus-updates>

This is likely to be another challenging half-term, but we will get through it, as we have done with all the other difficulties of the last 6 months, and I am confident that with positivity, flexibility and resolve, we will come through this chapter in our history safely and with our heads held high.

Yours sincerely



Mr N P Hewlett
Headmaster