



Thursday, 2 July 2020

THE CORBET SCHOOL

Headteacher Dr Jane Tinker BSc MA(Ed) EdD NPQH

Dear Parent / Carer

Welcome to the twelfth weekly update and although I will update you with some thoughts about September today we are very much waiting for the DFE guidance to come out at the end of the week so that we can get ready to welcome the pupils back. This has been another successful week with Year 10 experiencing some lessons with their options GCSE and MFL teachers on site and we are running this programme next week too. On Friday, Year 10 Zoom lessons took place in English, maths and science for pupils who cannot attend school at the moment. This week Key Stage 3 tutor group Zoom sessions are planned and hopefully we will all be developing in confidence about using this platform to support remote learning. Over the last few weeks we have been building expertise so that if, and I really hope that we do not, have to go back into lockdown and school closure again we will be both ready and confident to offer remote learning supported with online face-to-face support using Zoom and using OneNote as an online exercise book to enable work to be set and feedback to be given. I am very proud of all that the pupils and staff have achieved as our remote learning has evolved quickly since the school closure began.

The leaked guidance suggests a very different school experience possibly in the autumn term and I have taken an early decision to limit the number of evening events that take place in school as I suspect that we may not be able to have large numbers of parents on site and that we will have to keep mixing of adults in the school to a minimum and observe social distancing. Our usual school events will be virtual where this is possible e.g. Year 10 Parents Information Evening and possibly Open Evening. The Year 10 and 11 Parents' Evening will be moved to early in the Spring Term with reports being sent home in the autumn to keep parents informed and phone/video calls where needed. I am still hoping that we will be able to say farewell to Year 11 2020 formally and am keeping a watchful eye on when we could do this and give out exam certificates and have a celebration of their time with us but it is too uncertain at this stage to plan. It is always easier to move events back into this term, if we can do that safely, than to cancel them and move to another point in the school year and so that is the approach I am taking at this stage. I also think it is unlikely that sports fixtures will take place and the PE curriculum may be significantly altered as will any part of the school where equipment is shared. I think that parents need to plan for a school day that finishes at 3.20pm, at least initially and it is unlikely that we will operate any after school clubs, but I will keep you updated.

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I know that sounds quite negative, but I think is the next small step on the journey to getting back to normal. I am constantly monitoring the guidance and making sure that we are doing absolutely everything to can to keep all members of our community safe and offer the very best academic and pastoral support for all our pupils.

Year 11 Leavers' Hoodies: After a very long wait, we have received a message for the leavers' hoodies company to say that we should receive our delivery in the coming days. We will be in touch with Year 11 pupils as soon as the delivery arrives to notify them of collection times and procedures. On the same day, Year 11s can return their locker keys, provide us with bank details for deposit refunds and collect belongings they may have left in their lockers.

Newsletter: we would like to do a special edition of the school newsletter at the end of this term to capture some of the more positive aspects of the last 3 months. What have been some of your best memories, what have been your coping strategies, have you had a favourite piece of work you've been set, what have you learnt about yourself, what new skill have you learnt – whatever it is we'd love to hear about your experiences. If pupils or parents have any stories or photos they would like to share for this special edition, please e-mail them to newsletter@corbetschool.net

Whole school communication: We will continue with the weekly update and please do continue to look out for e-mail updates throughout the week from other members of staff.

Please can we ask that if you need to contact us to do so via email: admin@corbetschool.net. This will allow us to direct your question to the most appropriate member of staff.

We are getting closer now to the end of term on Thursday 16th July and can confirm that we will be finishing school at 3.20pm on that day.

Finally, please continue to contact us with any questions and concerns using the admin email address, stay safe and well and thank you so much for your continued support, we really do appreciate it.

Yours sincerely



Dr Jane Tinker
Headteacher

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