



# Hanham Matters

Weekly bulletin for Hanham Woods Academy

## **Week Beginning 9th November 2020**

It has been an eventful start to Term 2, with further increases in COVID-19 infections locally, the country moving into the second national lockdown and the government's announcement that face coverings are compulsory in all secondary schools in corridors and communal areas.

We have responded to these external changes and announcements by updating our risk assessment and publishing guidance for staff, students and parents/carers around wearing of face coverings, and further guidance about students travelling to and from the Academy. We have also had to ask that parents/carers do not visit the Academy for any reason other than in an emergency and if this is the case to please wear a face covering throughout your visit. Thank you for your on-going support with all our COVID-19 restrictions and continuing to follow all the guidance published.

Our amazing Year 11 students have been sitting Pre-Public Exams this week and these continue for another couple of weeks. These exams are important for us to ascertain what students can and cannot do so we can support them moving forward. Obviously, through no fault of their own, all students are slightly behind where we would have otherwise been due to the first national lockdown but teachers are aware of this and will be taking this into account when issuing grades. We plan to repeat these PPE's at least one more time before they sit their GCSE exams next summer and the intention is, by working together, we will close any gaps they may have in their knowledge or understanding. It is really important we work together to support both academic progress, but also young people's mental health and well-being so please do contact us if you have any concerns.

We are currently reviewing how we can facilitate our parents' evenings. We moved our Year 7 Tutor Evening from the end of Term 1 to Term 2 and I am delighted to say we will be releasing some presentations and a plan for 'virtual' tutor meetings next week. We have postponed our Year 10 Parents' Evening which was scheduled for Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> November. No current date has been confirmed for this yet, but it is likely to be after Christmas now. If any Year 10 parents/carers have a concern about their child's academic progress in a subject, please do contact their teacher or the appropriate Head of Department. If your concern is of a pastoral or welfare nature, please contact your child's Head of House. We have a Year 11 Parents' Evening scheduled for later in Term 2 after the PPE results are available. We are exploring software that may allow us to use video conferencing on our existing Parents Evening booking system to hold Parents' Evening appointments – I will update you on this as soon as possible. Thank you for your patience whilst we find an appropriate solution to feeding back about your child's progress. We do understand how important it is and really value your input and support in these meetings.

Finally, we will be exploring commemoration next week in tutor time leading to us holding an Academy wide 'moment of reflection' on Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> November. Last year we were able to bring the entire Academy together to do this. The Last Post was played on the Bugle and a wreath of poppies was laid by students and staff in uniform. This year, for obvious reasons, we will be doing this virtually, but we hope that students will wear their poppies with pride (these are available to buy in reception) and that they will treat the moment of reflection with the respect it deserves. Thank you for your support in ensuring this event runs smoothly by discussing its importance with your child.

**Thank you for your continued support.**

**Mr Kneller | Principal**



# Hanham Matters

Weekly bulletin for Hanham Woods Academy

**CALENDAR- Week Beginning 9th November:**

DATE	EVENT
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 PPEs</li></ul>
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 PPEs</li></ul>
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 PPEs</li></ul>
Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 PPEs</li></ul>
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Y11 PPEs</li></ul>

**CALENDAR- Week Beginning 16<sup>th</sup> November:**

DATE	EVENT
Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> November	
Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	
Wednesday 18 <sup>th</sup> November	
Thursday 19 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drama exam</li></ul>
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Drama exam</li></ul>