

Remote Message from the Principal 4

22nd January 2021

Dear all,

As I sit here on this sunny but frosty Friday, I am reminded that we are now half way through Justice 1, and what a start to term it has been. As we all heard on the Media this week, it does seem unlikely that schools will be open fully again straight after half term, but it is sincerely hoped by all that it will be before Easter. We have been promised two weeks notice.

It has been another busy week, both in and out of school, and what has been nice this week is we have started to be able to focus more on 'normal' business and continuing to develop and improve the School ready for our full return. The Year 9 Guided Choices process has been launched; a whole programme of House Events are being planned for over February half term, for those pupils who want to take part, as well as a revised plan for Justice 2 whether we are in school or out; Year 11 and 13s have been receiving their December mock results; lots of painting has happened on site; and we are making further developments on our future movement to Google.

I promise to keep this message short this week, as I know many of you have already received many bits of information from the School since Monday. There are just a couple of key bits of information below, about Remote Learning in both phases.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend; may the sun keep shining.

Kind regards,

Mrs Louise New

Principal



"This storm is making me tired," said the boy

"Storms get tired too," said the horse, "so hold on."

Primary Remote Learning

As mentioned last week, we have been working to introduce live class sessions for our Primary teachers and pupils, via Microsoft Teams. We are trialing some this coming week, and Mr Hanna will be in touch shortly with when your child will have the opportunity to get involved in these sessions.

Secondary Remote Learning

The launch of our live lesson timetable has gone well this week. There were some teething issues mainly due to technology both for teachers and pupils, but our ICT support and Mr Phillips have been working hard with teachers all week to iron out these issues. Thank you so much for your patience. A reminder to contact remote-support@chichesterfreeschool.org.uk if you need any help.

We have been really impressed with the pupils' engagement in the live lessons, and their continued hard work across the whole of their remote timetable. This hybrid approach seems to be creating a good balance for many pupils. It is very important that pupils are not spending the whole day in front of a screen and, as mentioned before, we offer some flexibility for those pupils who can't always access the learning at the normal time.

That said, it is important to remind all pupils that the live lessons may be the time that teachers are delivering the actual learning in that moment, but that live support and feedback from teachers is available during **all** lessons. If a pupil wishes, they can be in contact with their teachers during every lesson. This is either via Satchel One or, increasingly, via a Teams drop in. For those pupils who are struggling to manage their time, we continue to strongly encourage them to follow their normal timetable, and log in every lesson to liaise with a teacher who can help them with the work in each lesson.

As planned, we are increasing the number of live lessons for Years 7-9 over the coming fortnight. If you have a child in these year groups you will find a revised timetable attached. A further one will come out next Friday with other lessons added to the live lesson schedule.