



Kingswinford Academy

A part of Windsor Academy Trust

Kingswinford Academy Parent Bulletin
8th-12th February 2021



Dear Parent/Carer

Our last week before the half term break, much needed judging by the huge volume of work our students are generating each week - well done for all of those students who have been able to keep up with their studies throughout this lockdown period! It does feel strange, for those of us with children at home, to be looking forward to a holiday, but we draw to the end of this half term with the hope that students may be able to return to school in March.

Whilst there are no guarantees, and we await national confirmation of schedules, we are preparing for student return. One element of this preparation is in organising a student testing programme to enable all students who wish to to undertake 2 Lateral Flow Tests prior to their return. There is a short article later in this newsletter and, if you are interested in your child participating in this measure, please do follow the links and grant your consent.

Finally, I would like to extend my thanks to those generous souls who have donated laptops and other devices to the school to support our students. In particular I would like to thank Kingswinford and District U3A for their donation of 6 Chromebooks which we will pass on to students as soon as they are 'processed' for home use.

As always, please stay safe and have a good week,

Tom Macdonald
Headteacher

Contents

Introduction

Parent / Carer Questionnaire

Student Wellbeing Questionnaire

Covid Testing in Schools

Elevate Learning

The Brilliant WAT Remote Learner

Catch Up for HPV/DTP and MenACWY Vaccinations

Ask For ANI

ParentMail - Coming Soon

BMet Upcoming Careers Event

Free School Meal Vouchers

Trust Music Competition

Notices from Dudley Local Authority

Parent / Carer Questionnaire

S Wilkinson



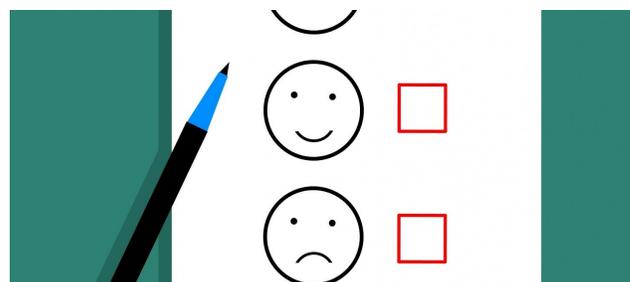
Following the Parent/Carer Questionnaires which went out a few weeks ago, we have now received and analysed the responses. Thank you to you all for taking the time and energy to reply: it is greatly appreciated.

The overall feeling is that live lessons are hugely popular and really help our students to continue to engage. Furthermore, there were a large number of responses, where, encouragingly, you felt that we are doing a good job and there is little you would change given the opportunity.

However, as always, there things we need to develop and learn from. One of these is that students need more time to complete work during live lessons and would also welcome more teacher feedback and support. This, and other learnings will be considered and as always, we will be looking at ways of improving our learning diet and helping our students as much as possible.

Student Wellbeing Questionnaire

S Fletcher



We have shared a wellbeing questionnaire with all students to examine how they are feeling, the balance of workload and how they prefer to complete it. Could you please encourage them to complete it and discuss any areas of interest with them.

Parents and carers are also asked to complete their own questionnaire. The deadline is **Thursday 28th February**. School staff remain here to help you and your child so please do not hesitate to contact us if we can be of any assistance.

Covid Testing in Schools

L Wise



In reference to the emails sent on 27/01/21 or 28/01/2021 regarding Student Testing in Schools for COVID 19 please use this link to give consent for your child.

<https://forms.gle/gNs8suzA9cyfhhM29>

If your child is over 16 years old they are able to give their own consent. Please refer to the information on our website [here](#)

Elevate Learning

L Palmer



I wanted to remind you that **Elevate's Stress and Wellbeing webinar is next Tuesday**. This has been their most requested topic and will be covering:

- The surprising symptoms of stress and how to identify them,
- How parents can support and stabilise their children through tougher periods,
- Strategies to manage exam and study-related stress,
- How, establish and maintain a routine that protects wellbeing in lockdown.

The webinar is on **Tuesday 9th February 6-7pm** and registration is **completely free for all parents at your school**. The registration link is: <https://get.elevatecoaching.info/uk/register>

The Brilliant WAT Remote Learner

J Wilkes



The Brilliant WAT Learner page gives both parents and students an interactive guide which supports all our learners and families through remote learning. Please click on the link below to find guidance on learning from home, exercise, well being and much more. This will update weekly:

<https://sites.google.com/windsor.windsoracademy/rust.org.uk/student-and-parent-guidance/aspire>

Catch Up Sessions for HPV/DTP and MenACWY Vaccinations

T Millard



Vaccination UK will be in school to run the catch up sessions for the **HPV/DTP** and **MenACWY** vaccinations on Wednesday 3rd and Thursday 4th March 2021.

This will involve all students in Year 9 and a few who, unfortunately, missed their vaccination due to illness/self isolating or lockdown in Years 8 and 10. This will be arranged by a strict appointment system only. Once all plans for the day are finalised, we will be in touch with parents with details of how to book the appointment and further information

Ask For ANI

S Fletcher



Ask For “Ani” – Domestic Abuse Scheme Dudley Safeguarding team have asked us to highlight the below help/advice.

Victims of Domestic Abuse can go into pharmacies and ask for domestic abuse help. By asking for “Ani” anyone suffering from domestic abuse will be taken into a private room and offered support. “Ani” represents an acronym for Action Need Immediately.

ParentMail - Coming Soon

T Macdonald



Letters and additional information were sent out this week and are available on our website [here](#) regarding our new communication system which, eventually, will replace Schoolcomms, called ParentMail. If parents still have balances on ipay, these will be transferred over to ParentMail after 11th February 2021. Further information can also be found [by clicking here](#)

BMet Upcoming Careers Event

J Wilkes



BMet is hosting a Parents Evening aimed at parents/guardians of students in Years 10 – 13 who want to find out more about BMet, the career pathways, support available and why BMet should be the first choice of post 16/18 education. Parents/guardians need to register for the event by [clicking here](#). On the day of the event, they will send log in details to the event which is taking place on Zoom.

Not only do they have a series of virtual events, they also have an interactive package aimed at Years 10-13 to look what the endless possibilities BMet has to offer. Students can work their way through the package at their own pace and move flexibly within the package to areas of most interest quickly and easily.

Please [click](#) here to view the interactive package - accessed via chrome.

Free School Meal Vouchers

L Wise



Parents/Carers of students entitled to FSM vouchers please be assured that you will continue to receive these for February half-term via the usual method. If you do not require the vouchers or have any difficulty obtaining your vouchers please let us know by emailing info@kingswinford.windsoracademytrust.org.uk

Trust Music Project

N Abel



An exciting Music project is going to start on Monday across the trust. Students, their families and our staff are going to be given the opportunity to participate in a Music video to say thank you to our NHS. Everyone is going to be invited to film themselves singing 'One Voice' by Barry Manilow, with a special message at the end to show our appreciation to those who have been on the frontline of the pandemic.

A link will be sent to students and staff on Monday and will also be available on the parent & student website which will provide all of the necessary information that is needed to take part!

We hope you will all join us in this fabulous project! Have some fun whilst providing a very warm and purposeful message.



Attention all parents!

Pick up school messages online or on the mobile app!

**FREE
DOWNLOAD**

"Sometimes it can be challenging to juggle school, work, other children, house work and commitments and know what is going on and keep in tune with the latest news and events at school. This app is a godsend!"



Get started...

- 1. Register with ParentMail**
- 2. Download the App & login**
- 3. Pick up school messages on the go**



Please note: You will need to register online on the ParentMail website to use the App. Please ask the school office to send you a registration message.

Notices from Dudley Local Authority

[Download the covid app](#) today



Keep up to date with [latest coronavirus advice](#) and
how it affects council services

Find out the latest [government guidance](#)