

Thursday 15th July 2021

Dear parents and carers,

I hope that you and your families are well.

As the academic year draws to an end, you may be reflecting on a year of challenge and uncertainty. It is however, worth reminding ourselves that as parents, pupils and school staff, we have joined together to ensure that our young people have had the best outcomes and experiences possible. I thank you all for your support and commitment in doing just that.

In this letter I would like to make you aware of the end of term arrangements and matters relating to the next academic year. This week we have had many positive activities taking place. Despite a number of pupils self-isolating; sports days have gone ahead, the music concert has been delivered through online assemblies and achievements and rewards have been celebrated with year group assemblies. On Friday 16th July pupils finish the academic year at 1pm when school buses will be ready to take them home.

Arrangements for the mass testing of pupils and the return of year groups in staggered starts:

As you know, the government is requiring secondary schools to mass test pupils for COVID-19 as they return to school. Pupils are required to have 2 Lateral Flow Device tests upon their return to school. From Wednesday 1st September to Friday 3rd September, pupils will come in for their allocated day and time for test one, after which Years 8-11 will leave the school site. We are keen to make the testing as worry free as possible for our pupils, especially the Year 7 pupils who will be new to LFD mass testing. Year 7 pupils will have their induction day on Friday 3rd September, they will be in all day. **All** pupils start the new academic year on Monday 6th September (A Week).

The mass testing schedule:

Year group	Date of LFD test one	Date of LFD test two
Year 9	Wednesday 1 st September	Monday 6 th September
Year 8 & 10	Thursday 2 nd September	Tuesday 7 th September
Year 7 & 11	Friday 3 rd September	Wednesday 8 th September

We will send out more detail information about the mass testing during the school holidays, so please keep an eye out for text messages and email from school.

Leadership arrangements:

As you know, Dr Walmsley remains off school unwell and I have been Acting as Principal in his absence. You may also be aware that I have been promoted to Headteacher at Educational Diversity in Blackpool, and will take up the post in September.

To ensure continuity, the governors and the Trust have asked Mr Cowper, Senior Vice Principal from Morecambe Bay Academy to be Acting Principal and Mr Chapman to be Acting Vice-Principal in the interim. Please be assured that high standards and ongoing improvements remain the school's priority.

Pastoral Arrangements

The Head of Year role was introduced as a temporary measure during the period when schools were required to

Principal:
Dr. Nick Walmsley



operate 'bubbles'. There are many merits to operating a Head of Year system, so this system will remain in at present.

The following staff members are leading year groups and year groups will be located as follows:

Year	Head of Year	Location
Year 7	Mrs Prestwood	A floor
Year 8	Miss Carr	A floor
Year 9	Mr Clark	E floor
Year 10	Mr Moore	C floor
Year 11	Miss Brown	D floor

Uniform expectations:

During the school holidays we encourage our parents to ensure that their child is fully equipped for school by having the correct uniform and equipment for school:

- CLHS blazer (must be worn at all times)
- House tie (purchased from CLHS £6)
- Full length tailored black trousers or black CLHS school skirt to be worn with tights or knee length black socks which must not be worn over the knee.
- White shirt Plain black leather or PU leather shoes with no visible logo (no boots, trainers, canvas shoes or pumps)
- Suitable outdoor coat (no leather or denim and coats are not to be worn inside the classroom)
- A pencil case with pen, pencil, ruler, rubber and scientific calculator as a minimum (if buying a calculator please purchase Casio FX83GTX)

The items below are optional:

- Plain black unbranded V-neck jumper (not to be worn in place of blazer)
- One pair of small stud earrings (worn in ear lobes)
- A watch

We remind parents that the following are not acceptable in school:

- No extreme hairstyles or hair colours
- No make up or false eye lashes
- No nail varnish or false nails
- No drainpipe, skinny or leggings style trousers
- No hoodies or baseball caps
- No piercings anywhere other than a single ear lobe piercing

Staffing:

Next academic year we have new staff joining our team. We are thrilled to welcome:

- Miss Michelle Hayes who will be our Head of English
- Ms Evans who will be teaching Modern Foreign Languages.
- Ms Ainsworth and Ms Sharples and who will be supporting pupils as an HLTA in the SEND department.

Sadly, we also have some staff who are leaving us at the end of this term:

Mr Hall joined us as the Catering Manager in 2016. He brought with him many initiatives to ensure that pupils were fed healthy and nutritious meals, as well as providing meals to their taste. He has introduced the pasta bar, the sandwich bar and barbecues in the summer during our pre-covid period. During our first lockdown, Mr Hall ensured that those families entitled to Free School Meals were given family meals to help them through the difficult period. We have much to thank him for and we wish him all the best with his new catering venture, look out for @TheCerealBox and order some yummy delights!

Ms Woodruff also leaves us to retire at the end of a busy working life in school. She started at CLHS some 15 years

ago as a Teaching Assistant. Her supportive work with young people in school has been invaluable. In particular she has helped those pupils with English as Additional Language. Some of these young people may have been displaced and sought refuge in Lancaster, her support has not only helped them academically but also socially and emotionally; allowing them to develop essential communication skills in a challenging circumstance. I am sure that you join me, in wishing Ms Woodruff all the best with her well derived retirement.

Miss Fish leaves us to take up a Teaching Assistant role at Christchurch Primary school. Miss Fish came to us in 2007, we snapped her up to join the Modern Foreign Languages department to teach both French and German. Whilst with us, she has been on many schools trips abroad, ensuring that pupils develop their cultural diversity as well as their linguistic skills. We know that she will enjoy working with younger children and they will appreciate her kind and enthusiastic approach.

Mr Johnstone joined CLHS early in his teaching career. He has still managed to keep his fresh face and enthusiasm as he has taken on additional responsibilities as Head of Department, Head of Year, Head of Sixth Form and staff governor. As a popular member of staff with pupils, parents and staff, Mr Johnstone leaves us with many fond memories. We wish Mr Johnstone every success as he furthers his educational research as a PhD student in history at Lancaster University.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank parents, pupils and staff for your kind words since the Chair of Governors announced my departure. Whilst I am very excited about my new post as Headteacher at Educational Diversity in Blackpool, I am also sad to be leaving a school community that I value so much. I know that I leave your children in safe hands and in a school that genuinely cares for its pupils. I look forward to hearing how your children progress through their time at CLHS when I come back to visit in the future.

I wish you a safe and happy summer holiday.

Kind regards,



Victoria O'Farrell
Acting Principal

